



SOCCER ACTION

JUGOSLOVENSKA
SCENA:15

VIVA ITALIA:14

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ
ΣΕΛΙΣ:15

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MAY BE SYDNEY'S SECRET WEAPON

Croatias in clash of the century



● Luka Bonacic raises both fists in triumph and is congratulated by Steve Gojevic, Davor Todoric and Josip Biskic after scoring the winning goal in the 1986 Buffalo Gold Cup final. See story page 7. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

By
CRAIG MACKENZIE

ate Rumora from Dinamo Zagreb could line-up which clashes with Melbourne Jenga Shield match at Olympic Park at winning club pocketing \$5,000.

Saturday, would be one of a host of stars to what should be an enthralling encounter

ers of the Buffalo and Ampol Dups will be in on Sunday. Melbourne Croatia's Gary Ward

l Zarko Odanokov will be the heart of Sydney's midfield, displaying abilities which won him a superb berth last year. I doubt still make off of Preston Macedonia, former club, regret this they parted company the former Vardar star.

ham Jennings, who Sydney Croatia rely from Olympic for 100, comes face to face Josip Biskic. It may be strange, but if Rumora Jennings's job may be more difficult for him is an attacking player is not possess the defensive qualities to keep Deankovic, the finest king right back in Australia right now, in check. kovic and Biskic have ncanny understanding at right flank and if Rumora he's likely to re-Shane Clinch on the of Sydney Croatia's side.

don't underestimate He knows most of the Melbourne Croatia players

and will be well aware of the side's strength down the right.

Bleiberg switched both Deankovic and Biskic to the left in Melbourne Croatia's 3-2 semi-final win over George Cross and may consider a similar ploy to confuse Ruzic's match plan.

The clash between Melbourne Croatia stopper Dave McIntosh and Sydney Croatia striker Graham Arnold should be well worth watching. McIntosh and Carl Gilder of George Cross had an almighty battle in the Buffalo Gold Cup semis. Gilder rarely turned past McIntosh and Arnold will find that task awesome.

Similarly, the battle between one of Melbourne Croatia's unsung heroes, the ever reliable George Hannah, and Sydney Croatia's Jurin will be spellbinding. Jurin has skill to burn while Hannah is one of the really great competitors in the National League — that means that we're in for a treat when they confront each other.

Sydney Croatia is almost certain to try to catch out its Melbourne foe on the break. Indeed, such a tactic has be-

come Sydney Croatia's hallmark.

Melbourne Croatia sweeper Tony Curcio will be kept on his toes throughout this absorbing encounter.

Melbourne Croatia and Sydney Croatia met three times last year with the Victorian outfit winning each time. In the Croatia Cup in Adelaide, Melbourne Croatia won 1-0 with McIntosh the scorer. In their clash to celebrate the opening of North Geelong's new complex, Melbourne Croatia won 2-0

with goals by Biskic and Ward and in a friendly in Sydney, Melbourne Croatia won 3-1 with Ward scoring twice.

At the risk of sounding parochial, I'm going for Melbourne Croatia to win what could prove the clash of the century. I'll certainly be at Olympic Park on Sunday to watch the skill and hair of Steve Gojevic, Jurin, Biskic, Odanokov, Bonacic, Mally Savor, Davor Todoric and hopefully Rumora.

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LAGER FOR LIONS

A six-figure sponsorship of Brisbane Lions by Foster's Lager (Carlton and United Breweries) ultimately could reap the club extra match points in Melbourne this season.

Part of the sponsorship includes pre-match overnight stays for all of Lions' games in the Victorian capital this season.

And Lions coach Gordon Arrowsmith is ecstatic.

"Last year many of the players complained of tiredness just before the match after travelling for several hours. It made us very vulnerable in the opening minutes and in quite a few matches in Melbourne last year we conceded early goals," Arrowsmith said.

This year Lions will travel to Melbourne on Saturday afternoon and the team will spend the night at a leisure activity or discussing the next day's match. The morning will include a light training run, and a specially prepared brunch.

"Food proved another problem when we were travelling. We could never get the right food at the right time and subsequently the players were eating not enough early on or too much too close to the game," Arrowsmith said.

"But Foster's are organising their hotels to give us special high energy food-stuffs mid-morning. It's a very professional approach and we are grateful for the assistance from Carlton."

Lions presently are on their north Queensland tour, also part of the sponsorship, and played three matches last week as a final warm-up for the NSL season.

— RICKY ROSSO

Belic: watch out for JUST!

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Led by the legendary Drago Sekularac and equipped with the finest attack since the days of Slobodan Zoraja and Branko Buljevic, Footscray JUST is set for its best season in the NSL.

And its success, says midfielder Vlatko Belic, will be the result of Sekularac's professional approach and the toughest training regime the players ever have undertaken.

Belic and his team-mates are undaunted by the realisation that they must finish at least in the top five if they are to be included in the elite 14-team league next year.

"The players realise that finishing in the top five is the only way we'll survive in the league," he says, "and we're all determined to do it."

Sekularac has been training his men six and seven times a week since he arrived from Yugoslavia along with his three recruits, Vlado Stotic, Zoran Nikitovic and Vojislav Vukcevic.

More recruits were being considered as we went to press — Steve Dimovski from Western Suburbs, Paul Simic from Broadmeadows and Vlado Bozovic from Hellas.

JUST showed a sign of things to come when it thrashed Makedonia 6-1 in a practice match. Stotic, from Red Star, was sensational, and Ossie Latif scored a hat-trick.

"We've finally got a strike force that looks for the ball, that's willing to take on opponents and shoot at every opportunity. Stotic and Latif look like the best we've had since Buljevic and Zoraja," Belic said.

Belic, 24, is in his eighth senior season with JUST. His first game was against Brisbane City in 1978, but when Zdravko Lujic and Igor Hazabent arrived from Yugoslavia, he lost his place and didn't become a regular until 1980.

He's been quite a heavy smoker and admits that it's affected his fitness but to cope with Sekularac's training demands, he's reduced his smoking by half, and hasn't touched a drink in a month.

"I used to light up after training. Now I'm so tired I can't even look at a smoke," he says.

Belic and goalkeeper Nikitovic have been training seven days a week, while others are getting away with only six nights.

"It's been doing us the world of good," he says. "Players have to be fit to play in this league. Fitness is even more important than skill."

Last year I was troubled by my Achilles and my ankles. It took me half a season to get



● J.U.S.T.'s new strike force, Vlado Stotic (left) and Ossie Latif.

properly fit, then I got injured again and finished up missing half the season.

"Now I'm on the way to being fitter than I've ever been. So too are the other players. They don't like it much, having to go every night, but they're not saying much about it. It won't go on indefinitely. Probably another two weeks at this level, and then we'll fatter off."

"But you'll see a drastic improvement by JUST. In the past, you'd see players complaining if the balls weren't played directly to their feet. Against Makedonia there were no complaints at all. Everyone was willing to chase, because they all felt so fit."

"It was a big contrast to our game against Makedonia in the Buffalo Cup because that night, we all had lead in our legs from the hard training. Now the soreness is slowly disappearing as we get more used to this level of training."

"In the past, we never trained the night before a game. But we've been doing that under Seki. I've found it keeps your body in rhythm. You train in the evening, then you're raring to get stuck into a real game the next day."

A good season is way overdue as far as Belic is concerned. He's been waiting for so long, as has Lujic. "I've been saying to myself every year that this would be the big one. You want something to show for your efforts. A little trophy, maybe. But it's been depressing at JUST because we've always been so far down the ladder. It will change this year, mark my words."

Sekularac, star of two World Cup campaigns with Yugoslavia, takes part in ball work and spends a lot of time at training with goalkeepers Nikitovic and Zoran Vlainic. His brilliant skills remain intact.

"He's unbelievable with the ball," says Belic. "He sells you dummies and it's very hard to read him. He's got a great shot with both feet and he can still beat you with the ball in confined areas. The only way to get the ball off him is to kick him in the leg."

Centre back Vukcevic, who looked slow and sluggish in the Buffalo Cup, has improved a lot as his fitness increases. "He was carrying a bit of weight and he was running in the heat with his track suit on to help him get it down," Belic says.

Simic, a former JUST top scorer who wants to return from Broadmeadows after almost a year away from soccer, also has a lot of weight to shed. He is certain to be signed.

Stotic, 21, is adjusting more quickly than the other two imports.

Belic raves about the boy.

"He's got no fitness problem at all, he's very skilful and he likes to take on opponents, just like Ossie Latif. It's very hard to steal the ball from him because he shields it so well. He played outside right against Makedonia, but he cut inside a lot, and he's prepared to shoot."



● Vlatko Belic (centre) battles against Graham Honeyman (right) and Vlado Bozovic in a game against WA-Hellas.

"We led 5-0 at half time, and four of us came off at half time. Had we stayed on, we would have won by a lot more than 6-1. We outran them, we were much fitter, and there was no frustration in our side, as there had been in the past."

Belic said that Sekularac was aiming to have a bigger squad than previously, so that players have to fight for their positions. "It's well known that certain players have been assured of their place, week in, week out, no matter what. Increasing the size of the squad is the

best thing that could possibly be done," Belic says.

Belic speculates that Sekularac probably wants him to play a more defensive midfield role this year, to balance the more attacking qualities of fellow midfielder Ernie Tapal and Zdravko Lujic on the wing.

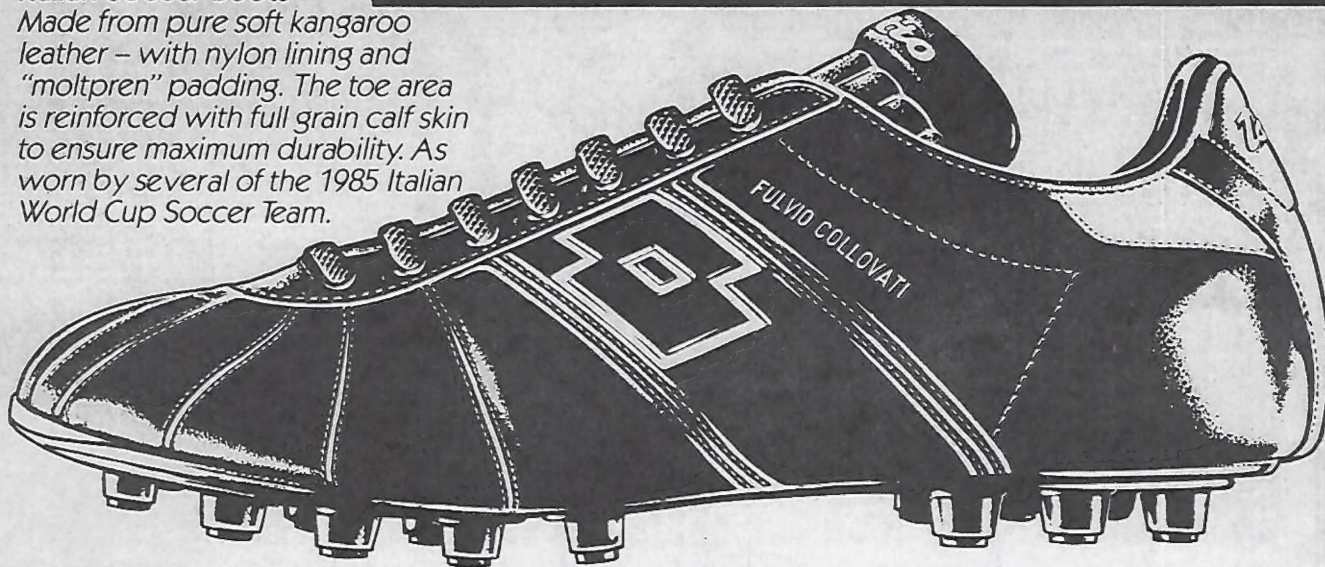
Nikitovic will be in goal, Ljube Petrovski at right back, Vukcevic at sweeper, Tom Karic at stopper and Stotic and Latif up front. That takes care of nine positions.

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The soccer player: does exhaustion make him a bad husband and father?



Let's follow Brazil, says Gully boss

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Green Gully president Guy Spiteri agreed with George Cross boss Alf Zahra that State-based super leagues, with national play-offs, will be introduced within two seasons, and that the proposed 14-team NSL will not work.

Zahra aired his views in "Soccer Action" last week. Green Gully, like George Cross, has only a minimal chance of being included among the elite 14 next year because of a low score in the past performance criterion.

Green Gully has 23.7 points out of 40 for past performance; George Cross has 22.

"It's a year of marking time for Green Gully," Spiteri said. "We don't believe we've got a chance to get into the 14-team league, and even if we did, we're not at all sure whether it would be to be part of it."

"If the past performances of other clubs are worked out over nine seasons, why don't they do the same for the newer clubs? Green Gully won three State League championships during this period, so we'd rank a lot higher."

"But I can't see the 14-team league lasting long. A



● Guy Spiteri

lot of clubs don't know what they've let themselves in for. When the whole argument started, and Hellas said they wanted a 14-team league, the NSL chairman, Sam Papasavas, warned that it would cost each club a lot of money. He mentioned a figure of about \$40,000 each, but that was almost 12 months ago.

"Sydney has put one over on Melbourne politically in getting guaranteed promotion to the NSL from the NSW State League, while Melbourne has to play off against Brisbane and Adelaide for the other promotion spot. If Melbourne clubs drop out and are not replaced, then the remaining Melbourne clubs will find themselves with insufficient matches against home-town opposition. "When they were part of

the old 14-team league a few years ago, the clubs complained that their fans were losing interest because they were seeing their team only every second week. That will again be the case.

"The only competition appropriate to Australia is a system of State Leagues with end-of-year national play-offs. Brazil, a big country with a huge soccer following, has exactly such a system, yet we keep looking to the English model which does not suit our conditions."

During the politicking last year, it was suggested at an NSL meeting in Sydney that the two Brisbane teams should switch from the Southern to the Northern Division, increasing the North to 14 clubs and reducing the South to 10. The Southern clubs then would play each other three times instead of twice, to make up the numbers.

Hakoah's Sam Fizman, spokesman for the Sydney clubs, opposed the move and it was then agreed that the Southern Division would be subsidised \$40,000 by the North as compensation for keeping the Brisbane teams.

"We haven't seen the money yet," Spiteri said. "Our \$16,000 affiliation fee is being billed at the rate of \$2000 a month. I reckon when we've paid \$11,000, we should tell the league to collect the rest from the Sydney clubs."

So you think players are overpaid? Maybe. At times I feel even a sloty or a devalued drachma is too much for them.

But at other, more rational times, I feel they are almost as badly off financially as some of those newly-arrived migrant women in our garment industry sweatshops.

What's more, several wives agree with me. I talked to three at length this week — and they all laughed at my suggestion that Australian soccer's part-time stars are on easy street.

Said Margaret: "At first I used to think back in the UK, that's lovely, we'll make a very nice living, what with J having a job and earning this extra from soccer. I can stay home with the baby."

"But first of all the money isn't all that much — and very often the club is weeks behind with payments."

"Secondly, hardly anybody cares what we have to put up with to earn this, what kind of disruption it means to our family life. J comes home late four nights a week, groans a few words to us and falls asleep. I might as well be married to a Zombie."

"Our son is growing up and soon I expect him to ask me about that strange man he sees occasionally at the breakfast table — his father."

Margaret says her husband last year earned from soccer about \$9000 and most of it was "arranged" by the club to be tax-free. "If we had to pay tax as well, I'd say it wasn't worth it at all."

Janet is less militant about it all though she also denied that her husband, an established first-team man, will be a millionaire through soccer.

"We both work," she says, "and three times a week he goes to training. I head for home, cook dinner and wait for him. It's usually 8.30 or a bit later that he gets home, exhausted."

"During the week we never have the time or the energy to go out in the evenings, not even to visit relatives. This is only possible on Saturdays, if the match is on Sundays."

"I have to help him with many of the chores around the house, like paint maintenance and the garden because, on his own, he wouldn't have the time."

"Money? Well, it's useful, as we are saving for a home and to start a family — but it's not all that much. I don't know exactly but I'd say last year he earned about \$12,000 with bonuses and contracts."

"That's not much less than what I earned but in my trade women are paid like slaves, so it's not his \$12,000 that is high but my \$14,000 that is low."

"Is it worth it? I guess so; he would probably play even if they didn't pay him a penny. But if you start to think in terms of hours and sacrifices, then you wonder why some people envy us in the first place and why some

Andrew Dettre

Cumming holds out

Green Gully's Tommy Cummings still has not signed a new contract and is available for a \$10,000 transfer fee.

However, a new right winger, Peter Reynolds from Scottish club Motherwell, will join Green Gully soon, along with Scott Fraser, a sweeper or midfielder from Berwick Rangers, who used to play for

club officials think our husbands are greedy buggers." The third lady in question, Helen, seemed quite content with her lot.

"I knew what to expect before we got married, so I am not whining. Besides, we need that extra money. Last year he earned around \$10,000 and that was a big help to furnish the house and run the car."

"Yes, the hours involved are long and he deserves every penny he gets."

So what do they really earn? I take the average of the standard established Sydney player's income at \$10,000 a year — though most, I would say, earn less.

This "year" runs from January

Players' wives don't dream of mink and diamonds

to the end of September — nine months.

Most of them train three or four nights a week, an average of two hours, add travelling time, take the average as three and a half nights of training and travelling — and you have about 10 hours a week.

Then Sunday. The match is at 3pm — but you have to count the time from about 12 when a player's concentration on the match zeroes in, when he eats a light lunch, nervously packs his bag and heads for the ground.

After the match they usually stay together for a while and most players get home at 8pm — after an eight-hour shift.

That makes it a "working week" of about 18 hours devoted to soccer — to \$10,000 a year.

Divide the \$10,000 by the 4 weeks (length of season) and you get about \$250 per week. Divide that by the 18 hours an it works out at less than \$1 an hour — which is rough tradesmen's wages.

What's NOT included in these calculations is the risk of injury and loss of wages an bonuses (plus further loss of wages from the full-time job) and the numerous inconveniences, if not sacrifice, husband, wife and often children have to make to accommodate a soccer player odd schedule.



● John Yzendoorn (right) clears a shot off the line during the 1980 NSL grand final against SC-Hakoah. Heidelberg won 4-0. Also pictured, from left: Jeff Oliver, Ken Boden, Mark Trenter, Jim Tansey, Pat Bannon, Ian Bruce.

Hellas to Juve

John Yzendoorn was transferred from SM-Hellas to Brunswick Juventus for \$14,500 last week, although an NSL dispute committee had set his price at \$16,000.

Heidelberg forward Scott Patterson had his transfer fee reduced to \$8500, whereupon Heidelberg promptly informed him he now was off the transfer list. The starting price had been \$15,000.

NSL chairman Sam Papasavas, however, advised that Patterson would be transferred if he found a club willing to buy him for \$8500.

"Heidelberg can't transfer-list him, and then take him off the list after the tribunal has given its finding. The decision is binding," Papasavas said.

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World Cup count-down: No. 7-NORTHERN IRELAND



PAT SET FOR RECORD

• Pat Jennings

By PAUL MOON

Northern Ireland will appear in World Cup finals for the third time.

In 1958 (after disposing of Italy in the qualifying rounds), it beat Czechoslovakia twice and drew with Cup holder West Germany, while 1982 saw the Irish finish above host Spain and the highly-rated Yugoslavs to reach the second stage. Little wonder then that Northern Ireland is recognised as the most persistent of international football's giant-killers.

Great hopes exist for the Irish to collect another scalp or two in Mexico. Perhaps expectations are too high.

Northern Ireland opens its campaign in Guadalajara against an Algerian team far more familiar with the inevitable hot conditions.

The Irishmen are notoriously vulnerable when facing opponents who, on paper, appear weaker (Finland beat them in the qualifying rounds, whereas Turkey ended aspirations during the last European Championship) and the north Africans are fully capable of creating a surprise on June 3.

Four days later, Northern Ireland meets a Spanish side surely intent upon gaining revenge for the 1-0 defeat suffered at Valencia in 1982 and the Group D programme is completed with a game against tourney favorite Brazil on June 12.

Northern Ireland's greatest strength is an amazing team spirit, strong enough to turn a team composed largely of undistinguished English League professionals into a combination of strength, determination, fire and not a little flair.

That spirit enabled the Irish to come through the crucial climax of their qualifying round without the aid of injured stal-

warts John McClelland, Martin O'Neill and Billy Hamilton. At the time of writing, the fitness of this trio was still in doubt.

However, evergreen Pat Jennings appears certain to be in Mexico, by then probably the most capped player in international soccer history. Every neutral will hope he caps off a remarkable career by helping write another chapter in the Irish giant-killing saga.

Although Northern Ireland ranks among the World Cup's 'little people', there is nothing small about Norman Whiteside — either in physique or ability. Whiteside made an enormous impression as a 17-year-old in Spain and subsequently has become one of the superstars of English domestic soccer. Now comes an opportunity to enhance his reputation worldwide.

Possible Squad: PAT JENNINGS (Tottenham Hotspur). One of the most popular figures in modern international soccer, 41 on June 12 (when Northern Ireland meet Brazil in Jalisco), he became a professional in 1963 upon leaving home town amateur club Newry Town to join Watford. Won FA Cup winners' medals at Arsenal and Tottenham, plus a UEFA Cup winners' memento with the latter, but it is his feats for Northern Ireland, which have assured him of a place in world football folklore. Beat Dino Zoff's world record for international appearances by a goalkeeper when winning his 13th cap against England in November and should overtake Bjorn Nordqvist's 115 game total before the finals start.

JIM PLATT (Coleraine) In

JOHN MCCLELLAND (Watford). Missed business end of World Cup qualifiers being sidelined by a broken toe. He was a great success in Spain four years ago, after rising from obscurity (Portadown, Cardiff City, Bangor City and Mansfield Town) to captain Glasgow Rangers. His \$450,000 transfer to Watford two years ago was a major factor in that club's success in fighting against relegation.

MAL DONAGHY (Luton Town). Equally able at left back, right back, centre back or in midfield, but originally a goalkeeper with his first club — the Post Office Social Club. After playing for other minor Irish outfits Cromac Albion and Larne, he moved across the Irish Sea to join Luton in 1978.

ALLAN MCDONALD (Queen's Park Rangers). The revelation of the qualifying round campaign, being superb against both Romania (on his senior international debut) and England.

JIMMY NICHOLL (West Bromwich Albion). A familiar, flame-haired figure in the defence of Manchester United throughout the late 1970s, before moving, in turn, to Tottenham, Sunderland, Glasgow Rangers and West Bromwich Albion.

JOHN O'NEILL (Leicester City). A utility defender who moved to Leicester from home town amateur club Derry Athletic in 1979 shortly after graduating from university. Made only a substitute's appearance (against France) during the last World Cup finals, but likely

Jennings' shadow since making Northern Ireland debut in 1976, but has still collected over 20 caps when the great man was unavailable through club commitments or injuries.

GEORGE DUNLOP (Lifford). Likeliest to succeed Jennings and Platt when they retire, he won his first senior cap in 1985, three years after travelling to Spain as third-string goalkeeper.

MARTIN O'NEILL (Notts County). Out of action for over a year with a knee injury, this tierrier of a midfielder will travel to Mexico as the squad's commercial manager if unable to regain full fitness. Won a string of domestic and European honours during 10 years at Nottingham Forest (1971-81), before moving to Norwich City, then Notts County. Begun his career with Derry City.

BERNARD McNALLY (Shrewsbury Town). A fringe member of the squad, who had yet to make an international debut at the beginning of this year. Born in England, but eligible to wear the emerald green jersey by virtue of having an Irish father. Religious convictions forbid him from playing on Sundays, which could create problems if he breaks into the team and Ireland reaches the second stage of the finals.

PAUL RAMSEY (Leicester City). Ultra-competitive midfielder-cum-defender who joined Leicester from Derry Athletic in 1980 and first don-

ned an Irish jersey four years later.

GERRY ARMSTRONG (West Bromwich Albion). Striker with good all-round skills who equalled Joe Bambrick's long-standing Irish international goalscoring record of 12 when netting against Finland in November, 1984. One of the few who perform far better for their country than club, he was voted Britain's best performer at the last World Cup finals.

COLIN CLARKE (Bournemouth). Plucked from English League Division Three for Ireland's qualifying round squad, he is a live-wire striker. Despite being only 23, has played for four other clubs — Gillingham, Ipswich Town (no first team appearance), Peterborough United and Tranmere Rovers.

NIGEL WORTHINGTON (Sheffield Wednesday). Moved across the Irish Sea to Notts County from Ballymena United in a \$140,000 transfer during 1981, shortly after being named Ireland's Young Player of the Year, and a \$160,000 brought him to Sheffield Wednesday in 1984.

NOEL BROTHERTON (Blackburn Rovers). A prematurely balding, 29-year-old whose pace and ball control make him a potential match winner, either as winger or midfielder. Brilliant throughout Northern Ireland's 1980 British Championship triumph, he toured Australia in the same year. After making just one league appearance for his original club, Tottenham Hotspur, he joined Blackburn in



• Northern Ireland: Jennings, C. Nicholl, McClelland, Donaghy, McCreery, Hamilton, Whiteside, Armstrong, J. Nicholl, McIlroy, M. O'Neill.

1977 and has subsequently become one of the most popular individuals in the history of that famous club.

DAVID MCCREERY (Newcastle United). A human dynamo of a midfielder who started his senior international career 10 years ago and gained his 50th senior cap in the crucial game at Bucharest. Previously with Manchester United, Queen's Park Rangers and Tulsa Roughnecks (USA), he has also represented Northern Ireland at schoolboys, youth and under 21 levels.

SAMMY MCILROY (Manchester City). Another squad veteran (31 years of age with over 80 caps — a record for an Irish outfield player). Spent 10 years at Manchester United, before moving to Stoke City in 1981, but is now back in Manchester — at City.

JIMMY QUINN (Blackburn Rovers). Assured of a special place in Irish World Cup history as a result of his crucial goal in Bucharest, yet only three years ago was playing in the semi-professional Cheshire League. After leaving Osprey Town, he spent a season with Swindon Town, before a \$85,000 transfer took the enthusiastic striker to Blackburn Rovers, and a long stint on the substitutes' bench before eventually winning a place in the English Second Division club's starting line up.

IAN STEWART (Newcastle United). An extrovert character who has reserved his best performances for Northern Ireland, he joined Newcastle from Queen's Park Rangers in 1982.

NORMAN WHITESIDE (Manchester United). Made a sensational impact in 1982, after travelling to Spain as an uncapped 17-year-old. Both the youngest player to appear in the World Cup finals and youngest to score in the FA Cup final, he was converted from striker to midfielder last season.

STEVE PENNEY (Brighton). Very promising young winger who has made rapid strides since Brighton paid Ballymena United \$60,000 for him late in 1982.

BILLY HAMILTON (Oxford United). Missed most of the 1985 — 86 English League campaign with a knee injury, but his proven record at international level should assure him of a place in the squad if fitness is regained. A robust, six-foot striker who served Linfield, Queen's Park Rangers and Burnley before moving to Oxford in a \$180,000 transfer immediately before United's 1984 — 85 Second Division championship-winning campaign.

BILLY BINGHAM (Coventry). A craftsman of a winger with Glenrath, Sunderland, Luton Town, Everton, Port Vale and Northern Ireland (56 caps — including 5 won during 1958 World Cup finals). As a coach, he served Southport, Plymouth Argyle, Greece, Northern Ireland (1967 — 1971), Everton and Mansfield Town, before starting a second stint in charge of the Irish national team in 1980.

How they got there

European Group Three: v Finland 0-1 (away), 2-1 (home); v Romania 3-2 (home), 1-0 (away); v England 0-1 (home), 0-0 (away); v Turkey 2-1 (home), 0-0 (away).



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• Marijan Kovacic

Jurin's goal makes up for stars' bad night



NSW AMPOL CUP

SYDNEY CROATIA 1 (Jurin 37th) INTER-MONARO 0, NSW Ampol Cup final at St. George Stadium. Crowd 9027. Referee: G. Power 8. Cautions: Walsh (1M).

Syd. Croatia: Watson 7 — Rezo 7, M. Kovacic 10, Rozic 8, Jennings 7, Williams 5 — Walsh 6 (Perisovic 67th), Carbone 8, Witherspoon 5 — Trajanovski 5, Winn 5 (D'adario 80th), Giampaolo 6. **Coach:** Frank Maccaferre.

Man of the match:
MARIJAN KOVICIC
(Syd. Croatia)



with ALEX VESIC

With a more enterprising attitude, I feel Inter Monaro could have done better. But with a game which provided Inter with one step forward and two steps back, it was obvious that the visitors from Queanbeyan were not going to score.

So much good work was done by Attilio Carbone and Ricky Budini. Alas, Steve Winn (once again), Victor Trajanovski and Ian Witherspoon were out of touch and that is just too much of a start for a team like Croatia.

Its determination to sit back and play counter-attacking football almost paid off a few times for Croatia's shrewd coach. And in each of the counter-attacking raids, Croatia relied on the long-legged, fast-running Zeljko Jurin.

He provided Shane Clinch with a chance in the 68th but Clinch headed over the bar. He was electrifying in the 81st, running for almost 40 metres and combating some four to five players but his pass, which found Dragicevic, was in vain — the final shot going wide.

Jurin missed a fine opportunity in the 72nd after four of Croatia's players had been involved in a great move. Jurin hit his shot high and handsome, metres over the bar.

A header by Dragicevic in the 70th was saved by Hoszowski while Kero shot wide from a good position close to the end.

For Inter-Monaro a shot by Witherspoon was smothered by Watson in the 51st, but the only chance that came Inter's way was in the 60th minute. For once, Giampaolo turned Rezo and came to the by-line before cutting his cross back for Witherspoon, metres away from the line, but ever-alert Rozic and Kovacic were on the spot to make sure nothing came of it.

And the winning goal: Wally Savor pushed the ball through for Jurin in the 37th. For a moment it looked as if Jurin had gone too wide and could not do much with the angle getting tighter and tighter. But with Hoszowski off his line, Jurin was able to squeeze his shot past the advancing keeper to give Croatia the Cup.

WHAT A YAWN!

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Phillips 58th) MELITA EAGLES 0, play-off for third place at St George Stadium. Referee: Richard Lorenc 9. Cautions: Lambropoulos, Bourke.

Sydney Olympic: London 7 — Phillips 7, Dakos 7, Stankovic 7, Lambropoulos 6 (Rogers 46th — 6) — Bourke 5, Reskopoulos 6, Soper (60th Estavillo) Brandt 5, Stevenson 5, Kalantzis 6. **Melita Eagles:** Pupovac 7 — McCoy 7, McAusland 7, Wilson 8, Williams 7 — Stone 6 (Hassan 67th), Serbas 6, Vial 6 — Dalton 5, Foxman 5, Meerbani 6 (Callanan 78th).

"We will be known as Santa Eagles after this game," quipped Kenny Wilson, Melita's centre back, after his team had gone down to Sydney Olympic.

Dragan Pupovac, Melita's young goalkeeper, threw a short pass to a defender who in turn found Birol Serbas some 27 metres from Melita's goal line. Gary Phillips pinched the ball and lobbed it over the stranded Pupovac. That was the goal which separated the two sides at the end of the most boring match so far this year.

Treated by both teams as a mere workout, it was

played at a pedestrian pace, with Melita showing far more initiative.

During the first 45 minutes, yawns all over the ground failed to make an impression on the 22 players. Olympic lacked zip and struggled against Melita's youthful side. Bourke, Reskopoulos and Soper did not make a formidable midfield combination and I am sure that Manfred Schaefer has learned from this experiment.

Vicente Estavillo came on the park after an injury to Marshall Soper but failed to stamp his authority on the already disjointed Olympic machine.

At the other end, Melita enjoyed a fair amount of possession and should have netted at least three times. With the scoreline 1-0 to Olympic, Melita created opportunities which should not have been missed!

Olympic, apart from that gift goal, created next to nothing, with the best chance going to Stuart Stevenson with 10 minutes remaining but his volley missed by 20 metres!

Despite losing, Melita retained its pride. Farrugia, Griffiths, Laing and Farnsworth sat on the sideline with injuries and one might suggest that those four would have made an awful amount of difference.

An enterprising display by Marijan Kovacic and superb finishing by Zeljko Jurin highlighted the Ampol Cup final, won by the slenderest of margins by Croatia.

Favored to win by a lot more goals, Croatia never came to grips with the windy conditions, nor its stubborn opponents from Queanbeyan.

Zarko Odzakovic, who had been tipped to mastermind Croatia's success in the final, had an off day and was replaced by John Kero midway through the second half.

Wally Savor and Shane Clinch never got out of first gear, while Graham Arnold and Emil Dragicevic took a "night off".

However, its stubborn and well-organised defence and some enterprising runs by Jurin more than made up for a general shortage of creativity. The star of Croatia was Marijan Kovacic.

The man who for 90 long promised so much but always came an inch short of the big time, was ahead of more fancied players like Giampaolo, Odzakovic and Rozic. He was in defence, midfield and attack almost non-stop and did not make a single mistake for the entire 90 minutes.

Drago Rezo at full back for Croatia put a stop to Giampaolo's ambition, while Rozic deserves praise for his great anticipation.

However, with all due respect to his fine display, it was difficult to understand the second half tactics of Croatia. With only a one-goal advantage, Croatia sat back and allowed Inter Monaro to dominate play during the second period.

Diamataris powers Port



FERNTREE GULLY 1 (Steenbergen 85th) PORT MELBOURNE 2 (Diamataris 45th, 58th), Victorian League Cup match at Knox Park, Saturday.

Ferntree Gully: Stenhouse 6, Bailey 7, Vaughan 7, Munro 7, Sinclair 6, Thom 8, Rigby 7, Whitehead 6, Steenbergen 7, Sullivan 6, Ireson 6.

Port Melb: Dossis 7, Kourtelis 7, Sismanis 8, Akritidis 8, Koutalas 8, Karpidis 6, Nikolaidis 6, Takianos 5, Diamataris 8, Kouroukidis 7, Michalakopoulos 6.

Ferntree Gully can be excused for asking: What do you have to do to win a game? Chance after chance went begging and Gully also had 25 unproductive corners and seven shots saved by the woodwork!

Take nothing away from Port though. It fought out the game to the end and showed desperation and teamwork which surely will change last year's image of being a chopping block for opposition teams.

Port hit the front when Diamataris received a pin-point cross from Karpidis, chested it down and hammered the ball past a hapless Stenhouse.

In the second half Gully

Victorian Cups

came out with all guns firing. Chances were created and missed but it seemed just a matter of time before Gully would equalise. But Diamataris put paid to that when he received the ball on the half-way line. With most Gully players in the forward line looking for the equaliser, Diamataris rounded Munro, the only defender in sight, then went past the keeper and slotted home his second.

But Gully kept up its barrage. Port defended strongly and kept Gully out until Steenbergen pulled one back with five minutes to go.

KNOX CITY 1 (Nelson 69th) NUNAWADING CITY 2 (Moyle 18th, Mullett 10th), after extra time, Victorian League Cup match at Egan Lee Reserve, Saturday.

Knox City: Long, Sais, Short (McLaid 15), Brindley, Durand, Holmes, Pate, Nelson, Tunstall, Phillips, Jones, Coach: C. Kelly. **Nunawading City:** Madjer, Brown, Barker (Groenewald 45), Chiaravalle, McCombe, Hurleston, Mullett, Bastasin (Roggero 74), Moyle, Nelles, Modjemasi, Coach: J. Adam.

Phillips picked up the ball 25 metres out in the 65th minute and unleashed a tremendous shot that was goal bound until Madjer made a brilliant one-handed save to force a corner.

Three minutes later, Nunawading took the lead. Bastasin broke clear but his shot was parried by Long. The ball rebounded to Bastasin who squared it across the face of goal to Moyle and he side-foot-



● **Essendon Triestina**, back row: Alex Fantoma, Tony Mainenti, Carlo Delporto, Michael Giacomini, Origlio Grbac, Dario Zavattiero, Chris Powell, Billy Vojtek (manager/coach), Michael Bonadio. Front: Frank Mussella, Carlo Sabidussi, Manuel Manini, Harry Dilizza, John Sorani, Joe Morokou. Picture: CARMELO BAZZANO

ed it under the diving Long. In the 69th minute, the home team equalised when Billy Brindle drove a long ball into the area. Madjer, at the back of the pack, only could palm the ball away and Nelson lobbed over the defence and into the net.

Nunawading sealed the match with six minutes left.

A crossfield ball found Roggero who squeezed past one defender before squaring the ball to Mullett who picked his spot from close range and hammered the ball home.

ESSENDON TRIESTINA 2 (Zavattiero 55th, 75th) WEST BRUNSWICK 1 (Gaitan 83rd), Victorian League Cup match, Saturday.

Essendon Triestina: A. Fantoma, H. Dilizza, J. Morokou, O. Grbac, F. Mussella, C. Sabidussi, C. Delporto, T. Mainenti, M. Giacomini, B. Vojtek, D. Zavattiero, Subs: M. Manini, C. Powell, J. Sorani.

West Brunswick: R. Perdomo, J. Rodriguez, F. Vasilia, G. Gopez, J. Gopez, A. Gaitan, F. Del Campo, A. Salvo, G. Alfonso, G.

Dalmino, J. Diaz, Subs: V. Rodri-9462, A. Rodriguez. **DANDENONG CITY (Bone 50th, Donnelly 70th, Spencer 85th) MOORABBIN 0.**

Dandenong City: Delaney, Gadsby, Krevan, Smith, Phillips, Johnson, Skromir, Donnelly, Spencer, Bone, Subs: J. Dapens, McCrumb, Wilde.

Moorabbin: O'Connell, Morgan, Dounias, Tietney, Lavery, Senese, Calladon, Martin, Thom, Senese, Bns Reserves Harris.

Lavery, Barclay. Best Players — D'ning Patrick Delaney, Steve Gadsby, Dave Spencer.

Dandenong has three top players at its line up — Gary Porter (defence), Paul Luca (midfield) and Jim Dapens — player/coach — resting injury.

Moorabbin had eliminated Keilor, last year's finalists (defeated by Melb on penalties).

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● **Victorian State League club Morwell Falcons** was expected to make a joint bid for striker Peter Verechia and midfielder Andy Hughes of Box Hill as we went to press. We understand that Verechia has agreed terms with Morwell. Hughes is listed at \$6,000, even though he joined Box Hill as a free player in 1982.

National Cup changes

The following amendments have been made to the first round of the National Cup:
Green Gully v Croydon now at Olympic Park on the evening of March 26.
Juventus v Croatia and Heidelberg v Makedonia double-header re-scheduled from Sunday March 23, to Saturday night March 22.

Springvale-Moorabbin final

● **Springvale City Cup results:** Springvale City "A" 1 (D'Amico) Springvale United 0, Moorabbin City 3 (Stevens, Senese, Crivar 0-5) Westall Inter 3 (Pignata, Dangelo 43, Diorio).
The grand-final between Springvale City "A" and Moorabbin City will be played tomorrow (Thursday) at Ross Reserve, Memorial Drive, Noble Park, at 7.30 pm.



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• Durakovic • Bozinovski

Durakovic to JUST?

Brunswick Juventus utility player Mehmet Durakovic is believed to be seeking a transfer to Footscray JUST. And Vlado Bozinovski is set to join from Hellas after impressing in trial games.

Durakovic was at Schintler Reserve last Sunday, talking to JUST officials during a practice match against Frankston Pines, which JUST won 2-0.

Durakovic, who was a team-mate of Mike Petersen, Andrew Zinni, Peter Tsolakis, Aki Kotzichalis and Joe Palatsides at Port Melbourne, had a season with Budonost when his family returned for a while to Yugoslavia.

His father long has been a JUST supporter.

Durakovic, who was included in Juventus's senior team late last year because senior players were out injured, scored nine goals for Juventus's youth team while playing as centre back.

Because Juventus has added John Yzendoorn and Jamie Paton to its squad, Durakovic is worried that he will lose his place in the team.

He is an extremely talented player, particularly at right back, although he also can play as stopper or in midfield.

Paul Simic, continuing his impressive comeback, scored JUST's first goal against Frankston Pines, whose goalkeeper Dennis Boland (ex-JUST) had much to do with keeping the score down.

Star striker Vlado Stosic was injured and had to be replaced by Bill Lazopoulos in the 21st minute, but the injury is not serious and he'll be OK for the National Cup match against George Cross on March 23.

JUST's line-up: Nikolic — Karic, Vukcevic, Belic, Petrovski — Tapal, Bozinovski, Lujic — Stosic (Lazopoulos 21st), Simic (Nedeljkovic 78th), Latif.

Best players: Karic, Bozinovski, Latif, Belic.



• Brown • Xanthopoulos

More goals for Brown

Doug Brown continues to show his goalscoring form of old, notching two in SM-Hellas's 3-0 victory over Western Suburbs in practice match at Ralph Street, Sunshine, last Sunday.

Charlie Egan scored the other goal, and Alan Davidson did well in his first game since rejoining Hellas from Nottingham Forest.

Best players were Egan, Brown, Davidson, and Arthur Xanthopoulos.

Hellas's other results this year have been:

v West Adelaide Hellas 3-2 (friendly), goals: Egan 2, Brown.

v Melbourne Croatia 1-2, goal McDowall.

v Western Suburbs 0-1.

v Green Gully 1-1, McDowall.

v Juventus 0-4.

v Morwell Falcons 0-2.

v Olympia (Tas) 3-0, Brown 2, McDowall.

Greener to Waverley

Waverley City has signed former Springvale City player-coach Ian Greener, who previously was a striker with Wilhelmina.

Greener is the first recruit signed by new Waverley coach Wally Stevenson who still is on the lookout for players.

He can be contacted after hours on (03) 561 4621.



• Heidelberg's 5ft. 2ins. winger Peter Tsolakis won the Buffalo Cup best player award. Picture: LES SHORROCK

Little guy with a big heart

He is a product of Port Melbourne, a club renowned for breeding champions. His former team-mates include Andrew Zinni, Mehmet Durakovic, Joe Palatsides and Socceroo Mike Petersen who are now at Juventus, and Croatia's Aki Kotzichalis who, at 6ft. 5 ins. is the tallest player in Victorian soccer!

But the name Tsolakis is more synonymous with South Melbourne Hellas than with Port Melbourne or Heidelberg, Peter's father, Manny, was the right winger of the Hellas team that won its first championship, in 1962.

John Margaritis, now Hellas's coach, was among Manny's team-mates.

"Dad's been there, he's done that," says Peter. "I've learned a real lot from him. Every day, we'd be out at the park, playing together. After each game, he'd tell me what I'd done wrong, and correct me."

But there are no divided loyalties when Heidelberg meets Hellas. "Dad's a Heidelberg man through and through now," says Peter. "And we have former Hellas players, George Christopoulos and Theo Selemidis who try that much harder every time we play in the big Greek derby."

Opposing full backs try to intimidate Tsolakis, but tough talk doesn't put him off, and most of the free kicks go his way. "Peter Lewis of Juventus told me during the NSL finals last year that he'd break my leg. I said: 'OK, go for it,' and walked away. During the game, you're enemies, but afterwards Peter was the first to shake my hand. He's a good guy. But he's also been my toughest opponent, along with Mark Brown of Crocydon."

Tsolakis, who is doing an accountancy course at Pahr College after being unemployed in 1985, also praised those who vied with him in the Buffalo Gold Cup best player voting.

"Sean Lane did really well. Steve Gojevic of Croatia is on a high. Ernie Tapal of Footscray JUST is a top player and Steve Marley of Heidelberg also had a top series. He's helped me a lot with passes down the left wing," Tsolakis says.

After losing star defender Charlie Yankos and strikers Stuart Stevenson and Steve Winn, Heidelberg was not expected to reach the final.

But it will be a big year for Heidelberg, according to Tsolakis. "We've introduced Alan Hunter, Andy Higgins and Chris Ketsakidis as new players in the team, and Paul Tzintzis is back after a year's absence, so once we all get used to playing together, we'll be a definite contender for the NSL finals," Tsolakis said.



• The look on Steve Gojevic's face hides the fact that Melbourne Croatia just has won the 1986 Buffalo Gold Cup. Picture: LES SHORROCK

Revenge for Croatia but controversy over winning goal

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Campbell 31st, Bonacic 68th) HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER 2 (Hunter penalty 43rd). Buffalo Gold Cup final at Olympic Park, Saturday night. Crowd: about 10,000. Cautions: Campbell, Gojevic, Deankovic, McIntosh (MC), Ketsakidis, Oliver (Heid.). Referee: Chris Bambridge 5.

By
CRAIG MACKENZIE

Man of the match:
JEFF OLIVER
(Heidelberg)

MELBOURNE CROATIA Runje 8 — Deankovic 8, McIntosh 7, Curcio 7, Hannah 8 — Biskic 8, Campbell 7, Gojevic 7 (Redmond 80th), Bonacic 8 — Ward 6, Todoric 6 (Markovac 84th). Coach: Miron Bleberg.

HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER Oliver 9 — McKie 8, Hunter 7, Christopoulos 7 (in), Valentine 41st, St. Marley 8 — Selemidis 7, Higgins 6, Ketsakidis 7 (Deligiannis 77th) — Metaxas 6, Tzintzis 7 (Angele 87th), Tsolakis 7. Coach: Brian Garvey.

Croatia avenged its 5-1 drubbing by Heidelberg in last year's Buffalo Gold Cup final but this match was marred by two goals that should not have been awarded.

Croatia's Tony Curcio clearly was pushed in the back by Heidelberg's Paul Tzintzis just before Curcio tripped Tzintzis and Heidelberg was awarded a penalty from which it levelled the scores in the 43rd minute.

The winning goal from Croatia came in the 68th minute and before Luke Bonacic nabbed it, big Dave McIntosh impeded Heidelberg goalie Jeff Oliver when they challenged for a high ball.

Back to the Curcio-Tzintzis incident. Heidelberg was under pressure and was being the ball clear. One such clearance, a mighty one at that, by Andy Higgins, sent the ball sailing downfield. Curcio was in control of the situation but Tzintzis won possession by elbowing Curcio in the back. Curcio then spun around and tripped Tzintzis. Referee Chris Bambridge had been understandably caught well out of position by Higgins' hefty clearance. He obviously didn't see Tzintzis's push but, sprinting at full pace, Bambridge was there in time to view Curcio's trip.

Now, on to the winning goal.

Davor Todoric sent over an inswinging corner. Gary Ward headed on, sending the ball into the teeth of the Heidelberg goal. Oliver jumped with McIntosh but wasn't even able to effect a clean punch and from my vantage point, appeared to be hindered in his attempt to attack the ball, which fell at the feet of Bonacic who slammed it in from point blank range. The goal stood when a free kick to Heidelberg should have been awarded.

Croatia coach Miron Bleberg dropped Robert Markovac, the second highest scorer in the Buffalo Gold Cup, and used Todoric alongside Ward in the starting line-up. Todoric's penchant for a wide attacking role on the left found him in such a position often but Croatia still was able to get midfielders forward to support Ward.

Bleberg didn't toss us any tactical teasers as he had done in the semi-final against George Cross. Drago Deankovic was back on his favorite right side as was Josip Biskic. Jim Campbell and Steve Gojevic were in central midfield spots with Bonacic on the left. Heidelberg's line-up, predictably, was unchanged with George Christopoulos sweeping up, Alan Hunter stopper, Higgins in a central midfield berth with John Metaxas, Tzintzis and Peter Tsolakis up front.

Tsolakis was presented with his trophy as the competition's best player then it was down to business and Deankovic hardly let little Tsolakis get a sniff of the ball in the first half.

In the 2nd minute, Josip Biskic's corner to the near post was headed on to the side netting by Ward and in the 5th minute Oliver was sliding about at the near post trying to cover a Campbell shot which had been deflected. A minute later Oliver was in agony.

He dropped a high ball and Bonacic tried to get a foot to it. Oliver recovered but fumbled the ball again. Bonacic tried to get a foot to it again but only succeeded in connecting with Oliver.

The Heidelberg goalie lay motionless on the ground as play continued. Bambridge realised that Oliver was hurt so he stopped play and called the trainer. A glance at the Heidelberg team sheet revealed that five reserves were listed. Not one of them was a goalkeeper and that's bad organisation any way you look at it.

Fortunately for Heidelberg, Oliver was able to continue. Heidelberg's first clear strike at goal came in the 10th minute. John Metaxas won the ball on the right of the Croatia area and lobbed it to the far post. Tzintzis had escaped his marker but headed just wide.

Oliver came charging out of his area and slid down to belt the ball clear just before Ward could get a touch to a superb through ball by Gojevic in the 16th minute and two minutes later Heidelberg fans were jumping out of their seats claiming that Tzintzis should have been awarded a penalty.

Tzintzis had turned Hannah superbly on the right and motored into the Croatia area. McIntosh came across to confront him. Tzintzis pushed the ball too far forward then threw himself across McIntosh's outstretched leg but Bambridge wasn't fooled, correctly waving play on.

In the 23rd minute Todoric, what a sweet left foot he has, sent in an inswinging corner which was headed over by Ward at the near post.

In the 25th minute, Heidelberg struck through a fine move. Christopoulos played the ball forward to Hunter on the left. Hunter played a long ball to the feet of Tsolakis whose first time lay-off put Metaxas in possession. Metaxas tried a long shot. The ball was deflected to the far post and Miro Runje was alert enough to race off his line and get to it before Tzintzis.

Oliver got down well to hold a firm, low shot from Biskic in the 26th minute. In the 29th minute, Biskic could have set up



• Heidelberg goalie Jeff Oliver (left) crashes into team mate Andy Higgins and Melbourne Croatia's Gary Ward (right) after firing the ball clear. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Todoric on the left but decided to shoot instead, sending the ball well wide. Two minutes later, Croatia struck.

Bonacic took a free kick on the left, just over the halfway line. He knocked it long to Gojevic who headed on to Ward. The leading scorer in the Buffalo Gold Cup did well to create room for a shot. Oliver had it covered until it struck a Heidelberg defender and lobbed over his head. Even so, Oliver recovered well only to tip the ball on to the bar. Campbell charged in, slid down, and tucked it away.

Bonacic played a superb ball to Gojevic in the 34th minute. Gojevic lost possession but battled well to win the ball back. He then struck a low shot on the turn but Oliver was down in a flash and held the ball safely.

Christopoulos held the ball far too long in the 36th minute. He allowed Ward to close him down, block Christopoulos's attempted long ball and break toward the Heidelberg goal. Fortunately for Christopoulos, Ian KcKie had read the situation well, coming inside and thumping the ball out for a throw-in.

Croatia should have gone further ahead in the 39th minute. Deankovic crossed from the right. Bonacic headed firmly but not well directed enough. Nevertheless, the ball fell to Ward at the far post. Oliver confronted Ward who cleverly chipped it past the Heidelberg goalie only to see Gojevic heading over with the goal at his mercy.

Christopoulos limped off for treatment in the 40th minute. Selemidis dropped back to sweep for a couple of minutes but when it became clear that Christopoulos couldn't continue on came Mick Valentine, recently back in favor at Heidelberg. Valentine went to the right side of midfield, Selemidis switched to a central midfield role, Higgins dropped back to stopper and Hunter took over as sweeper.

Two minutes were left before half time when Heidelberg gained its penalty. Hunter took it and converted with ease. The scoreline read 1-1, even though Croatia had created more chances.

Three minutes into the second half, Biskic cut the ball back from the right of the Heidelberg area. Campbell was charging in, shaping for a first time shot but Ward, with his back to goal, controlled the ball before Campbell could get there. Ward spun around and shot but the ball was deflected over.

Oliver was well positioned to control a dipping Deankovic volley in the 54th minute. Deankovic and Biskic, whose combinations are well known, had played a neat one-two on the right.

Hunter, who gets caught in possession a bit too much for my liking, was caught in the 56th minute. Todoric slipped the ball to Ward on the left of the Heidelberg area but Ward rushed his shot, sending the ball sailing well over the bar.

Ward, on a diagonal run toward the near post, steered a Biskic pass into the 65th minute, three minutes before Croatia's controversial winning goal.

But Croatia should have been awarded a penalty in the 76th minute. Oliver had raced out of his area to head the ball clear. It came back just as quickly. Todoric was about to shoot when he was hacked down from behind. Bambridge waved play on, leaving Todoric to limp off for treatment.

Markovac replaced Todoric in the 84th minute. A minute later Markovac had his first touch and should have scored. Bonacic won the ball from Steve Marley, Heidelberg's last defender, positioned just inside Heidelberg's attacking half.

Markovac broke from the halfway line but from just outside the Heidelberg area, pushed the ball too far forward, allowing Oliver to thump it clear.

In the 87th minute, Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey took off his best forward, Tzintzis, and put on Joe Angele, essentially a central defender. Goodness knows why.

It was too late anyway.

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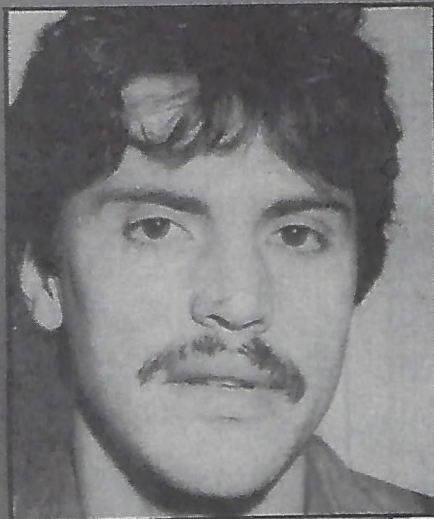
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HOME

Round 2, April 6: v Brisbane Lions. Round 4, April 20: v Adelaide City Juventus. Round 7, May 18: v Brunswick Juventus. Round 8, May 25: v Melbourne Croatia. Round 10, June 15: v George Cross. Round 11, June 22: v Footscray JUST. Round 13, July 6: v West Adelaide Hellas. Round 15, July 20: v Green Gully. Round 16, August 3: v South Melbourne Hellas. Round 19, August 24: v Heidelberg Alexander. Round 22, Sept 14: v Brisbane City.



Preston M



● Back row: Con Angelovski (team manager), Gary Cole, Con Opasinis, Ian Roodhouse, Billy Piculovski, Phil Traianedes, Stuart Lee, Steve Smith, Paul Koussas, Bill Murray (coach). Front row: Ron Campbell, George Petrov, Nick van Egmond, Ian Dobson, Graham Heys, Mike McLennan, Mile Necovski, Sean Lane. The insets focus on four of the newcomers to Murray's first team squad. Bottom left is Nick van Egmond, a

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Makedonia



AWAY

Round 1, March 30: v Brisbane City. Round 3, April 13: v West Adelaide Hellas. Round 5, May 4: v Green Gully. Round 6, May 11: v South Melbourne Hellas. Round 9, June 8: v Heidelberg Alexander. Round 12, June 29: v Brisbane Lions. Round 14, July 13: v Adelaide City Juventus. Round 17, August 10: v Brunswick Juventus. Round 18, August 17: v Melbourne Croatia. Round 20, August 31: v George Cross. Round 21, Sept 7: v Footscray JUST.



former Mornington, Nunawading City, Hellas-Hakoah and Ringwood Wilhelmina player. Above left is Mile Necovski, Makedonia's import from Pelister in Yugoslavia. Above right is Ron Campbell from West Perth Macedonia, the 1985 West Australian Rothmans Medal winner and below right is Mike McLennan, youth Soccerroo, who joined from the Institute of Sport.

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THE 1986 DOCKERTY CUP

Dockerty Cup preview
By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Steve Short playing sweeper for Knox, Kevin Lloyd lining up for St Albans Dinamo, Ian Loughnane up front for Broadmeadows, Dave Gibson in midfield for Altona Gate, Gerry Bennett wearing the colours of Sandringham City and Peter Vardaxis adding punch to Oakleigh...

That's what's in store when the first main round of the 1986 Rioh Dockerty Cup kicks off on Saturday.

As was the case last year, Melbourne-based National League clubs won't enter the competition until its later stages but their absence has done little to affect interest in the oldest Cup competition in Australia as clubs clamor for new signings in order to bolster their league championship aspirations or to consolidate their status.

Traditional Greek rivals Caulfield City, newly promoted to State League, and Oakleigh clash in the first match of a double header at Gardiner's Creek Reserve on Saturday.

"I don't think that match was drawn out of a hat," was the response of Oakleigh player-coach Kris Kalitaditis to the draw.

Kalitaditis is in his first season as a senior coach. He's a former Hellas and Northcote defender but it's unlikely that he'll be lining up in his customary sweeper's role against Caulfield.

"I can't force my way into the side just because I'm the coach. The lads are playing too well right now for me to get a game," he said.

Oakleigh has signed Vardaxis from Hellas for \$3,000. Jim Paparas from Mordialloc for \$3,000 and Con Fakos from Mordialloc on a free. Kalitaditis was trying to sign another two players as we went to press.

Oakleigh has lost Socrates Nicolaides, who has returned to Hellas; John Gusic, who has joined Croatia; Joe Leonardos, who has been training with Springvale City and Giovanni Battistotto who has retired.

Nevertheless, Steve Irvine has re-signed and alongside Paparas will give Oakleigh plenty of bite up front which means that we're in for a great game, for Caulfield will have last year's leading scorer, Danny Zemanik, former Hellas winger Pepe Abraham and former Northcote winger Jim Sahinidis trying to find a way through Oakleigh's defence.

I lean slightly towards Caulfield in what could be a thriller.

Western Suburbs' Scottish import Dennis MacLeod will line up against Yarraville in the second game at Gardiner's Creek Reserve on Saturday.

Yarraville has signed former Albion and Suburbs striker Billy Bouzas, goalkeeper Nick Apostolidis from Suburbs, Fred Demetriou from Bulleen and his brother Jimmy, Bouzas may not line up against Suburbs because he's still working on his fitness but Fred Demetriou will be in defence, Jimmy Demetriou in midfield and Apostolidis in goal.

Coach Con Karapanagiotidis can look forward to a big year judging by the way his committee is pulling out all stops in a determined bid to sign a goalkeeper from Greek First Division club Iraklis. Yarraville officials won't release his name until



Steve Short (Sunbury)



Kevin Lloyd — set to join St. Albans Dinamo.

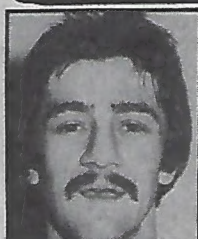


Peter Vardaxis — from Hellas to Oakleigh.



Steve Short — now with Knox City

Yarraville to get Iraklis goalie, Vardar looking to Yugoslavia



Jim Daperis — player-coach of Dandenong City

Tibor Drinoczky should keep things tight at the back.

Fawcner clashes with Doncaster Rovers in the second match at Smith Reserve and keep your eye out for 16-year-old Fawcner right back Peter Bordignon.

"This kid's a star of the future if ever there was one," said Fawcner coach Peter Boyle.

Former Juventus and Hellas goalie Gary Clayton has been training with Doncaster which is trying to secure his transfer from Springvale City and former Croydon midfielder Duncan Smith, who quit as player-coach of Knox two weeks ago, also could join Rovers.

Former George Cross great Norm Maitland is Doncaster's player-coach. In Rob Forsyth and Andy Casson, Maitland can field the most

seasoned striking duo in Victorian soccer. Casson is a giant and Forsyth is solid and aggressive. They'll put Fawcner's defence under tremendous pressure.

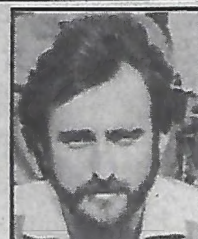
The midfield battle also is intriguing for in Ray Tolmie and Keith Valentine, Doncaster has two experienced and talented performers.

Fawcner playmaker Colin Quigley may not have as much room to work in as he'd like. Nevertheless, Fawcner might pack too strong a punch up front in the form of Joe Palinkas and Bruno Cazzella.

Doncaster has lost 10 of last year's first team, so coach Billy Millen won't be full of confidence going into Saturday clash with Sunbury in the first match of a double header at Churchill Reserve.

The Doves have lost Paul Priestley, Jimmy Sparks and Peter Killey to Mooroolbark; Les Long and Dave Nelson to Knox; Steve Gadsby to Dandenong City; Sammy Wright to Keysborough; David Wainwright to North Dandenong and Stuart Robbins and Terry Masters to Boroonia.

The newcomers to the first team squad are: goalkeeper



Ricky Liparski — Polonia to Altona Gate Vardar?

George Edwards from Cranbourne; defenders Richard Wans from Dingley, Carl Erdeg and Ian Sweeney from the reserves and John Bruce from North Dandenong; midfielders Herbie Mayne from Rowville and 20-year-old Bradley Jennings from South Africa and forwards George Nicholas and John Haddock from the reserves and John Parker from Mitcham.

Doncaster also has signed winger Eugene McInerney from Newry Town in Northern Ireland but he's yet to arrive. Coach Millen is trying to sign another two Northern Irish players.

But if Sunbury doesn't win this game then something is sadly amiss at Langama Park. Sunbury coach Mike Lynn already has signed

sweeper Tom Brewerton from Croydon for \$1,500, goalkeeper Lino Grech from Broadmeadows for \$2,000 and goalkeeper Ross Carrossa and forward Tony Narcisso, both on frees from Juventus. The losses have been Martin Catterton, goalkeeper George Patton, who has moved to Western Australia, Paul Lewis and Seb Magnano, who has joined Werribee for \$1,500.

Lynn is trying to sign two local strikers but is keeping tight lipped about their identity (which will tickle Joe Do-

cherty's fancy because he affectionately calls Lynn "piano teeth").

Kil Grechan is recovering from an operation to remove a piece of floating bone in his knee but defender Ron Kremers, who has worked hard on a weightlifting program in the off-season, looks set for a fine year.

St Albans Dinamo coach Tony Vrzina was confident of clinching Kevin Lloyd's signing from Juventus as we went to press and hopes to use Lloyd against Nunawading City in the second match at Churchill Reserve.

Vrzina already has signed Robert Kraljic from Green Gully and Mark Wilson from Northcote but expected to lose John Bruno to Essendon Triestina and Zlatko Lerotic to Albion Turk Gucu.

If Lloyd is signed, he'll partner Dennis Morovic and Branko Culina up front. They'll be confronted by the formidable presence of former Croydon stalwart Steve McCombe, who joined Nunawading recently from North Dandenong, and is bound to be more than a match for Morovic in the air.

Nunawading's other newcomer so far is forward Sandro Bascetin from Bulleen.

Nunawading is coached by Jim Adam, the man who guided West Adelaide Hellas to the 1978 National League championship, and is likely to line up with Scott Nellies, Jonathan Greenewald and Nick Hurleston in midfield with Rob Madjer in goal. Nunawading will give a good account of itself but Dinamo should win.

Charlie Kelly is Knox's caretaker coach and his immediate task will be to guide the side through Saturday's clash with Clarendon and into the next round of the 1986 Rioh Dockerty Cup. That's the first match of a double header at Croydon Park.

Although Knox is likely to lose Raphael Underwood, Michael Bissinger and Martin Wilde, it has signed the experienced Steve Short, who played with Berwick last season on loan from Green Gully, forwards Dave Nelson from Doveton and Clive Holmes from Clarendon, defender Tom Fitzpatrick from Springvale City and was trying to sign stopper Fred Murray from Ringwood.

Wilhelmina as we went to press.

Clarendon's main signings this season have been the Mitsou brothers, Theo and Jimmy, both from Hellas.

The likely Clarendon line-up is Michael Ioakimidis — Billy Fergatidis, Peter Apostolopoulos, captain John Godeasi, Peter Constantinou — Ali Charalambous, Peter Petrakos, Bill Galtonis, Jimmy Ougrinis — Mike Charalambous, Theo Mitsou.

Others in contention are Con Nikitas and Jimmy Mitsou. Croydon 1985 State League champion, should be too strong for Dandenong City in the second match at Croydon Park.

Croydon coach Peter Orlerton has only one major problem. Who does he drop?

Sandringham City was trying to negotiate a loan deal with George Cross in order to have Gerry Bennett in its line up for its clash with Broadmeadows in the first match of a double header at Wembley Park. So far, Sandringham's only new signing is midfielder Ali Ayubhan but former Juventus and Richmond striker Renato Poci is back in action and talented midfielder Jason Jacobi also is back after missing the past two seasons mainly due to his blossoming cricket career.

Sandringham has lost midfielder Billy Buchanan, who has been transferred to Mornington for \$800 and retired Dave Thompson has retired. Sandringham player-coach Billy Morrey has been lining up as sweeper in the past few games with Ian Finnegan partnering him in the heart of defence. With Poci, former Liverpool and



Alun Evans (Sandringham)

He's got four attacking players in Graham French, Andy Humble, Alex Livingstone and Dave Brogan with Matt McDonald, Jim MacLean, and Steve Beech vying for midfield berths.

French and Dandenong City's new sweeper Steve Gadsby are old mates from their Hakoah days but big French has been known to put himself about so Gadsby won't be made exactly welcome.

Dandenong City's other new signings are David Spencer, Mark Kresvan, Mark Phillips and Peter Wild from the now defunct Kew Park Rangers. John Skomrlj from Springvale United and the club was trying to sign Dave Luca from Springvale City in time for this clash. Regular goalkeeper Chris Sparrow is recovering from a back injury so Dandenong player-coach Jimmy Daperis is likely to use Graham Angus in goal.

Y Dandenong City line-up is: Angus — Daperis, Gadsby, Gary Porter, Paddy Delaney — Graham Johnson, Paul Luca, Kresvan — Skomrlj, Steve Bone, Jimmy Donnelly.

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Saturday's Ricoh Dockerty Cup games with likely winners in capitals:

GARDINER'S CREEK RESERVE
CAULFIELD CITY V Oakleigh at 1.15pm, followed by **WESTERN SUBURBS V Yarraville**.

SMITH RESERVE
MELBOURNE-HUNGARIA V Altona Gate-Vardar at 1.15pm, followed by **FAWKNER V Doncaster Rovers**.

CHURCHILL RESERVE
SUNBURY V Doveton at 1.15pm, followed by **ST ALBANS DINAMO V Nunawading City**.

CROYDON PARK
KNOX CITY V Clairinda at 1.15pm, followed by **CROYDON V Dandenong City**.

WEMBLEY PARK
BROADMEADOWS V Sandringham City at 1.15pm, followed by **BOX HILL V Northcote**.

MONTREY RESERVE
POLONIA V North Dandenong at 1.15pm, followed by **FRANKSTON PINES V Werribee**.

ROSS RESERVE
RINGWOOD WILHELMINA V Springvale United at 1.15pm, followed by **SPRINGVALE CITY V Mooroolbark**.

PARTRIDGE RESERVE
Albion Turk Gucu V BULLEEN at 1.15pm, followed by **Thomastown V MORWELL FALCONS**.

for Polonia should be the return from injury of goalkeeper Leszek Dzielakowski and striker Janusz Przybyla, the latter likely to partner Greg Warszawski in Polonia's attack.

North Dandenong's new signings are Steve Lawson (from Frankston Pines for \$1,300), former JUST defender Jim Milne (from Mor-dialloc on a free), David Wainwright (from Doveton), and Mitchell Pilbeam (from Knox). The losses have been Steve McCombe (to Nunawading City) and Ian Mackie and Alistair Taylor (both to Dingley).

Lawson is likely to line up as sweeper with Milne stopper. Neil Collyer probably will be right back and Wainwright left back in midfield. North Dandenong coach Arthur McMillan may use John Byrne, Tommy Fox and Pilbeam with Jason Symonds, Mark Congdon and John McDonald up front. If McMillan decides to use four in mid-field then Gary Buick could come into the starting line-up with one of the forwards dropping out.

Frankston Pines will be too strong for Werribee in the second match at Montre-y Reserve.

In Stan Webster, Ally Dick, Mick McGorian, Goran Runje and Paul Hennessy Pines have an abundance of attacking flair, too much for Werribee to stifle.

Werribee's only new signings this year are Seb Mag-nano from Sunbury and goalkeeper Angelo Meletis from Moreland. The club has high hopes for its new striker Greg Lograsso and one of Werribee's stars, 20-year-old Ian Calderwood, is recovering from knee problems. Former Altona City and Sunshine player Peter Scarlett will be in Werribee's defence with Gus Paolo, runner-up in the First Division's best and fairest voting last year, up front.

Wilhelmina, with recruit Stuart Thomson in its line-up, should beat Springvale United in the first match of a double header at Ross Reserve. But a word of warning to Wilhelmina, Don't take Springvale United lightly, for it is a very skilful if sometimes inconsistent outfit. It certainly can turn it on when it puts its mind to it.

Greg Czapanik, who doesn't look suited to the role, has been tried out as sweeper in recent games but North Dandenong isn't strong up front so Polonia fans can rest easy. A plus

Ermas Wondimu, Johnny Nynolt and Kenny Stewart will be in Wilhelmina's attack and should do enough to save the State League side from embarrassment.

Springvale City still was trying to sort out the Greg House affair in order to use the gifted striker against Mooroolbark in the second match at Ross Reserve.

If the web of intrigue involving Springvale City, Melbourne Croatia and Knox can be unravelled, thereby enabling House to play and Springvale's other addition to its attack, Russell Athersych, arrives from England in time then the Springvale line-up could look something like this: Bill Whiteside, Martin Vogel, Keith Adams, Michael Bissinger, Robin Settle — Ged Bannon, Gordon Bentley, Jim Nelson — Joe D'Amico, House, Athersych.

Pedro Ramos seeks move

Pedro Ramos, 24, one of the finest midfielders in the Victorian State League, has been transfer-listed at his own request by Box Hill for \$5000.

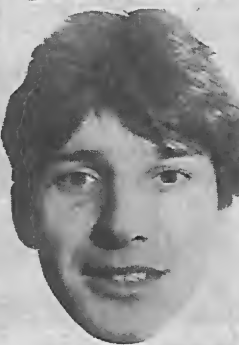
Born in Chile, he joined Box Hill eight years ago as an under 16 player.

He has played for the Victorian youth team and was a member of the Victorian schoolboys side that beat NSW in the national schoolboys final in Brisbane a few years ago.

His team-mates at Box Hill have included Scott Patterson and Mike Valentine who went on to play NSL soccer for Heidelberg, Alexander, and Ian Roudhouse and Steve Smith, who are now with Preston Makedonia.

A skilful, two-footed player who averages seven or eight goals a year from mid-field, Ramos can be obtained at home on (03) 874 6936.

Tuffield to the NSL?



Ian Tuffield hadn't come to terms with Fawkner as we went to press and two Melbourne-based National League clubs were hot on his trail.

Tuffield, 26, recently returned from a year-long stay in the U.S. He didn't play soccer there, preferring to "buy an old Chevy convertible and see the sights."

Tuffield is lethal in the air and is a former Preston Makedonia player. There's little doubt that he could make it in the NSL but Fawkner probably is hoping that it can reach agreement with him on a new contract.

Top scorer dumped!

Brendan Lakic, 28, top scorer of Thomastown for the past two seasons, has been transfer-listed for only \$2500.

The decision by new coach George McMillan not to include Lakic in his 18-man squad is a puzzling one, as Lakic scored 10 goals last year and 16 goals in 1984.

He was also joint top scorer of Polonia, with 14 goals in one of his six seasons there. He also won Polonia's best and fairest award.

Lakic can be contacted at home on (03) 380 4543.

From Page 10

Hellas star Alun Evans and the nippy Alex Fenton up front, Sandringham will stretch Broadmeadows.

Broadmeadows coach Billy McArthur hoped to complete the signing of striker Ian Loughname from Fawkner in time for this match. There's \$2,500 on Loughname's head and if signed in time, he'll partner Davie Griffith and Dave Perkins in midfield. Broadmeadows hopes rest with Stewart Blair and George Watson. They'll be pitted against Brian Greenwood and Tony Dillon of Sandringham. Broadmeadows should win but I wouldn't mind betting that this one goes right down to the wire.

Box Hill will be without Peter Verechia, Andy Hughes and Pedro Ramos when it clashes with Northcote in the second match at Wembley Park. It still should win though as Northcote isn't financially viable enough to splash out on new players and lacks Box Hill's depth. Verechia was expected to join Morwell Falcons as we went to press while Hughes



● Danny Zemunik (Caulfield)

and Ramos were transfer listed last week after a breakdown in negotiations over new contracts.

Despite the demise of last year's first team squad, Polonia should defeat North Dandenong in the first match of a double header at Montre-y Reserve.

Greg Czapanik, who doesn't look suited to the role, has been tried out as sweeper in recent games but North Dandenong isn't strong up front so Polonia fans can rest easy. A plus

'NO' TO ISRAEL

overseas round-up with PAUL MOON.

● The Brazilian federation has relented and will not now suspend Leandro and Renato from its World Cup squad. The pair had earlier been banished from the training camp after failing to return before curfew.

● Despite being of a dubious pedigree, the touring USSR team completed its tour of New Zealand without defeat. The Soviets' results against the All Whites were: 1-0 (Auckland), 1-1 (Wellington), 2-1 (Christchurch), 2-0 (Napier) and 4-2 (Gisborne).

● Northern Ireland international Gerry Armstrong has left West Bromwich Albion for Chesterfield of the English Third Division.

● Argentinian Alfredo Di Stefano, "The White Arrow" of Real Madrid's glory days during the late '50s, has been appointed coach at Valencia. During a previous stint with them, Di Stefano guided Valencia to the Spanish League title.

● UEFA has, yet again, rejected Israel's application to join European soccer's ruling body.

● A report from Munich, as yet unconfirmed, states that sports-wear giant Adidas has offered Bernd Schuster \$800,000 to make himself available for the West German World cup squad.

FIFA World Cup Finals — MEXICO 1986

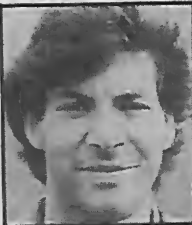
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● Bruno Cozzella (Fawkner)

But Mooroolbark won't capitulate easily. It has gone on a buying spree this year, gaining Joe front from Royal Richmond, Paul Priestley, Jimmy Spinks and Peter Killey from Doveton, former Croatia and Wilhelmina player Kevin Adams and Liam Houston from Prahran Celtic.

Second Division club Bulleen could test First Division rival Albion Turk Gucu out in the 1986 Ricoh Dockerty Cup when they clash in the first match of a double header at

Rigby to Gully

Ferntree Gully has again recruited well, with class players Dave Rigby, Harry McKinley and Terry Masters added to the club's existing successful squad.

Ferntree Gully's hard-working committee believe this year will again be successful, and would welcome the support and patronage of local soccer fans at Rushdale Street, on Saturday, March 22, for what promises to be an entertaining match with Rosanna.

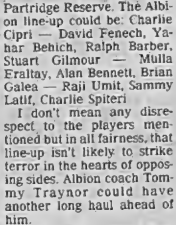
Heidelberg reunion

Life members and all former players of Victorian League Fourth Division club Heidelberg (formerly Heidelberg-Bundoora) are invited to a gala day at the club's headquarters on the corner of Liberty Parade and Banksia Streets, Heidelberg, on Sunday.

Taubmans paints will sponsor the festivities and the club will unveil a life members' plaque. Heidelberg's origins date back to the 1920s but the club's first life member was named in 1945. Heidelberg now has 40 life members.

Former Wilhelmina and Croatia great, Ollie Norris, is Heidelberg's new coach. Club president "Shocker" Myles is adamant that players won't be paid. This switch to an amateur outlook has been forced on the club due to a debt of \$6,000.

Heidelberg recently beat Greensborough in the final of the Darkon Cup and Myles and Norris are confident the team will consolidate its Fourth Division status before climbing back up the leagues.



● Bruno Cozzella (Fawkner)

Partridge Reserve. The Albion line-up could be: Charlie Cipri — David Fenech, Yahar Behich, Ralph Barber, Stuart Gilmour — Mulla Eraltay, Alan Bennett, Brian Galea — Raji Umit, Sammy Lalif, Charlie Spiteri.

I don't mean any disrespect to the players mentioned but in all fairness, that line-up isn't likely to strike terror in the hearts of opposing sides. Albion coach Tommy Traynor could have another long haul ahead of him.

Bulleen has signed Paul Romano from Juventus and line-up. Former Sunshine-George Cross player Alan Contini is in goal, ex-Juventus and Fawkner player Serge Sabbadini in defence, former Heidelberg Alexander and Fawkner star Andy Bezikas is in mid-field with Laurie Boarotte, ex-Northcote and Mel Anselma, ex-Doncaster Rovers and Fawkner, up front. Coach Alan Gentry must be quietly confident of effecting a minor upset here.

I'm tipping Morwell Falcons to beat Thomastown in the second match at Partridge Reserve but not with any confidence. If Thomastown players show just half of the commitment their player-coach George McMillan is renowned for, Morwell will find the trip back to the La-trobe Valley lengthy and lonely.

POLONIA'S SIDE OF THE STORY

Polonia president Richard Makarucha has hit out at my story in last week's "Soccer Action" concerning player problems at the Victorian State League club, claiming that Polonia's situation was misrepresented.

I said that Rick Liparski, Dave Gibson, Janusz Przybyla, Leszek Dzielakowski, John Little, Claude Avian, Darko Kolaric and Sam Deluca were in contractual dispute with Polonia.

"Rick Liparski has never had contractual problems with Polonia. He's been at the club for 10 years and feels that he needs a change. That's why he's on the transfer list," said Makarucha.

"We also haven't had contract problems with Dave Gibson who got involved in club politics because he didn't like us sacking Eddie Reid as coach. Janusz Przybyla and Leszek Dzielakowski are injured, not in dispute. Claude Avian and John Little are in a 50/50 situation. They're partly in dispute over contracts. Darko Kolaric was pissed off with the coaching last year and didn't like being on the bench in a couple of friendlies this year."

I also said last week that Peter and Greg Czapanik, Savas Saglam, Mirek Welch and John Vathis were transfer listed last year. Saglam had injury problems last year while Kathis transferred to Melbourne.

"They were never transfer listed," said Makarucha.

"Peter Czapanik was in dispute with the club because he didn't like the coaching, the same goes for Mirek Welch, while Eddie Reid told Greg Czapanik that he wouldn't make it and Greg had a chronic back problem too."

After refusing to name what I believed was an impeccable source for last week's story, Makarucha told me: "The reporting should be more accurate and should come from people with the authority to comment on club matters. If your source was a Polonia committeeman then he'd be sacked immediately."

"I reserve the right to vet everything that goes into the press concerning Polonia."

And "Soccer Action" reserves the right to contact whom it pleases and ask any question it pleases without discussing the matter with the president of Polonia or any club official. We still believe in freedom of speech, within the bounds of laws regarding libel and defamation, of course.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

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THE INDOOR BOOM!

After Round Three of Victoria's premier indoor soccer league, the Latrobe Valley League, the Wallabies have set a very high standard for the other teams to achieve.

The international experience of Browne and Brabbin has been passed on to their team mates and certainly shows out in the way they dispose of the opposition.

It was great to see both Anthony and Mark Cassar back playing for Trak Records, scoring two goals each.

Another new team this season, The Spartans, secured a very impressive 4-2 win over Miki Motos. David Wilson, in his first game in two years, top scored with two lightning quick

goals and provided a steady influence in The Spartans' win.

The Womens League continues to improve mainly due to the many male coaches who have shown a real interest in assisting the ladies to improve their ball skills.

was a pleasure to coach these ladies as they show a real keenness to improve."

The Socceros coached by the demanding David Lloyd, have been moulded into an almost unbeatable force with a recent 5-0 win over newcomers Turfites. Goal scorers in this game were Melinda Davey (2),

Liz Davis (2) and Janine Warren.

All Age Men's results: Gippstars 5 Home Pride Crusaders 2, Monash 8 The Wallies 0, Wallabies 8 Trak Records 5, Spartans 4 Miki Motos 2.

All Age Women's results: Socceros 5 Turfites 0, Rico Reds 2 Cats 0, Miki Motos 2 Femme Fatale 0.

Brabbin's the boss

At a recent meeting of players and directors of the Latrobe Valley Indoor Soccer League, Paul Brabbin was unanimously appointed as playing-coach of the Latrobe Valley's first State League team.

Paul has been playing indoor soccer for three years and has represented Australia at the World Championship held in Spain in October 1985, Victoria at both the 1985 and 1986 National Championships, and the Latrobe Valley at the 1985 and 1986 National Club Championships.

Paul recently had success in coaching the Valley team to its second successive state championship in November and he is looking forward to continuing his first-up effort and proving to other state centres that the Valley Tigers are Victoria's premier team.

Wallabies set high standard

Four goals for Bisetto as Eliminators cruise

Eliminators 9
Carcioffi Rangers 3

Scorers: Eliminators — Bisetto 4, Kondinski 3, Gennai, Giacomini, Carcioffi Rangers — Sella 2, Gattino.

ELIMINATORS: Boin 8, Giacomini 8, Terzini 8, Bisetto 9, Kondinski 9.
RANGERS: Tochetto 7, Cesarin 8, Sella 8, Sparano 7, Gattino 7.

The game began with both teams going for goal in the first minute but the keepers were ready and waiting and no goals were scored. But the skilful Bisetto worked his way towards goal and scored the first for the Eliminators.

Shots then came from Sparano for the Rangers who was foiled and it was then Kondinski's turn to shoot but he too failed to score.

Sella of Rangers, who played a brilliant game the previous week, tried one of his cannon-like shots but Terzini, the Eliminators' goalkeeper, was not going to be beaten easily. Seven minutes into the game Kondinski tried again for goal but Cesarin saved. A minute later Bisetto intercepted a through ball but

Cesarin managed to get a hand to it and it went over the bar.

Moments later a passing movement from Giacomini to Boin, back to Giacomini and through to Bisetto resulted in the Eliminators' second goal. Two great shots from Tochetto and Sella both failed to add to the score for Rangers.

In the 15th minute, Sella had another shot. The ball was cleared in front of goal, but the resulting scramble saw the ball fall again to Sella's feet and this time he seemed certain to score. His shot beat the keeper but also cleared the bar.

Bisetto made the score 3-0 and the Eliminators fourth goal came soon after when Giacomini's pass to Bisetto then to Kondinski saw the keeper watch the ball go through his hands.

A long throw by Gennai to Giacomini led to the Eliminators' fifth goal. Seconds later another inter-

cepted pass saw Bisetto, normally a left footer, score with a brilliant shot with his right foot.

Two minutes into the second half the Bisetto-Kondinski combination again caught Cesarin off guard and resulted in the seventh goal and the third for Kondinski.

In the 4th minute of the second half a clearance by Rangers found Gattino whose high shot caught out Terzini.

It was Sella who, from two metres out of the penalty area, rifled in a shot and gave Rangers their second goal. More shots from the Eliminators didn't bring goals until the 15th minute when a throw-in saw Bisetto run in and score his fourth goal. A foul by Terzini found the Rangers in with a chance to score again and that they did, with Sella getting his second goal. The score was 8-3.

In the 16th minute Gennai closed the scoring with a shot from an extremely sharp angle



● Eliminators, 9-3 winners over Carcioffi Rangers, back row: V. Kondinski, M. Giacomini, E. Boin. Front: M. Gennai, M. Terzini, M. Bisetto.

Frangakis sets Euronations on the path to victory

Euronations 2
Split 0

EURONATIONS: T. Frangakis, J. Frangakis, M. Mahlis, F. Gaudi, C. Sfrivou, T. Antoniadis.

SPLIT: A. Pericic, S. Sinkovic, S. Lawson, N. Rangusa, G. Jarakicis.

The crowd knew before the game started that this was going to be a tough encounter as both teams had their sights set on reaching the finals. Split wanted to make up for last year's semi-final loss to Euronations.

The game was tense and started off at a fast pace with both teams creating numerous scoring opportunities but the final shots didn't find the net.

It was not until the 12th minute of the first half that last year's league Best and Fairest winner, Terry Frangakis, rocketed a right foot drive past Jarakicis in goal for Split.

In the 10th minute of the second half, man-

of-the-match Fabio Gaudi scored the Euronations' second goal to clinch the game.

Results: Seniors A — Mutundies 5 Sharp Shooters 0, Euronations 2 Split 0, Makedonia 3 Goodonya 0.

STANDINGS

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Mutundies	1	0	0	5	0	3
Makedonia	1	0	0	3	0	3
Euronations	1	0	0	2	0	3
Split	0	0	1	0	2	1
Goodonya	0	0	1	0	3	1
Cosmos	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oz United	0	0	0	0	0	0

Results: Youth A — Makedonia A 1 United Nations 2, Junior Cosmos 2, Devils 1.

STANDINGS

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
United Nations	1	0	0	2	1	3
Junior Cosmos	1	0	0	2	1	3
Makedonia B	1	0	0	0	0	3
Makedonia A	0	0	1	1	2	1
Devils	0	0	1	1	2	1

of the net to make it 6-0. Varga scored to make it 7-0 and in the 13th minute the Greeks scored one of their two goals.

In the second half, it was soon 9-1 when first Del Porto and then Severino scored again, then Sorani made it 10-1. The score changed to 10-2 when the Greeks managed another shot, but John Sorani answered quickly, hammering in two blistering shots to make it 12-2.

It is clear that it will take a very good team indeed to beat this goalscoring machine and it looks as if the Triestina boys will be taking home the trophy from Sunshine.

A devilish affair!

Black Devils 12
Golden Greeks 2

Scorers: Black Devils — Sorani 5, Severino 4, Del Porto 2, Varga.

Black Devils: Bonadello 8, Varga 8, Severino 8, Del Porto 9, Sorani 5.

The Triestina Black Devils trounced the Greek team, continuing on their triumphant march towards the final.

Severino opened up the scoring with Sorani adding a second soon after, and Severino then made the score 4-0 with two quick goals. Del Porto made it 5-0 and Sorani then hit the back



● Velce Kondinski

Sky's the limit for Kondinski

This week's profile features not a well-seasoned player but a youngster who, according to many has an excellent future in soccer.

Velce Kondinski, a 16 year old, in just seven years has won awards many his age only dream about. In his first year with Preston Makedonia, Velce won the Most Improved Player award and twice the Best and Fairest Player award.

He has played indoor soccer for three seasons and has won the Preston League Best and Fairest as well as being on Makedonia's winning team two seasons in a row.

In last year's competition in Morwell, Velce's team was runner-up. The team then played in Sydney for the Australian championship and made the semi-finals only to lose 1-0 to Croatia. Nevertheless, Velce's performance did not go unnoticed and he was picked in the U/18 Australian team.

Asked why he plays indoor soccer, Velce said: "It's a game that keeps me very fit and I enjoy playing with my friends."

Kondinski also is a member of the Preston National League team, the Eliminators, which he really enjoys being a part of, because he finds that competition in this field is more skilful and fiercer, as well as the fact that travelling interstate lets you see how the competition varies in indoor soccer.

What is Velce's aim? What else, to represent the senior Australian indoor soccer team.



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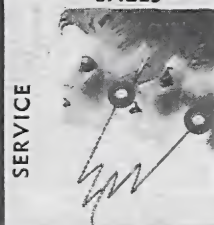
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It's Beograd, Juventus in the final

**Beograd 1
WA-Hellas 0**

Scorer: Greaves 82nd

It's Beograd v Adelaide Juventus in the SA Ampol Cup final at the Hindmarsh Stadium tonight (Wednesday, March 12) after a king-size

upset and a near upset in the semi-finals.

Beograd defied the odds to eliminate highly fancied West Adelaide Hellas in an extra-time thriller, while Juventus nosed home against Azzurri with a late goal from Adrian Santrac.

There was a tinge of disbelief surrounding Beograd's success over Hellas.

Unquestionably, Hellas had been the star turn of the minor round as it banged in 10 goals and allowed only one in its three games.

And as it picked up its six qualifying points Hellas entertained with football of genuine quality.

Beograd, by contrast, stumbled into the major round with two wins (one an uncertain 1-0 effort over Elizabeth City) and a 0-2 loss to Juventus.

AMPOL

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
AMPOL CUP**
with ALLAN CRISP

But Beograd tossed aside the form book to achieve its shock result and destroy the promoter's dream of a Hellas-Juventus final.

Beograd boss Johnny Nyskohus was the first to admit that his team had enjoyed more than its fair share of good fortune during the initial 80 minutes and the eventual 10 minutes each-way of extra-time.

"Yes, we were lucky, but we were competitive and we lasted out the game well," Nyskohus said.

Stamina was an important ingredient as the game was played in oppressively hot conditions.

The final will put brother against brother as Beograd coach Johnny Nyskohus attempts to stop his elder brother Bugsy leading Juventus to its second successive Ampol Cup win.

There was a fair share of brotherly rivalry in the second semi-final, with David Alberton of Juventus opposed to his brother Robbie Alberton of Azzurri and Azzurri goalkeeper David Miller on the opposite side to his striker brother Colin Miller.

The heroes of the first semi-final were Beograd goalkeeper Frank Pasquini, Rothmans Medal winner Paul Shillabeer of Beograd and match-winning goalscorer Sean Greaves, whose deflected

shot beat Hellas goalkeeper Gary Sproul.

Hellas was best served by Allan Scott, who created countless chances with his left flank crosses and Charlie Yankos in his first full game for his new club.

Santrac threw Juventus a Cup lifeline with his late goal, while our defenders Neville Flounders and Bugsy Nyskohus were as reliable as ever.

The villains of the night were Hellas midfielder John Panagis, whose send-off thwarted any hope Hellas had of notching an equaliser and Azzurri midfielder Ossie Michelon, who got his marching orders in the second semi against Juventus.

SA CUP DETAILS

BEograd 1 (Greaves 82nd) ADELAIDE HELLAS 0. At Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 4,731. (Double-header). Referee: John Miller 9. Cautions: A. Brazzale (B), Avezina (B), Manou (H). Sent-off: Panagis (H).

BEograd: Pasquini 9, A. Brazzale 8, Douglas 8, Shillabeer 9, Hancar 8, Welsh 8, Greaves 8, Rusmir 7, Preston 7, Millar 7, M. Brazzale. Subs: Avezina for M. Brazzale 51st, Krizman for Douglas 94th. Coach: Johnny Nyskohus.

ADELAIDE HELLAS: Sproul 7, Mousoulis 7, Scott 8, Hiern 7, Yankos 8, Honeyman 7, McLaughlin 7, Hristodoulou 7, Manou 6, Price 7, Konstandopoulos 6. Subs: Panagis for Konstandopoulos 41st, Brown for McLaughlin 81st. Coach: Neil McGachey.

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS 1 (Santrac 75th) AZZURRI 0. At Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 4,731 (Double-header). Referee: Jim Rossis 7. Cautions: Vidmar (J). Sent-off: O. Michelon (S).

JUVENTUS: McNally 8, Tobin (Higgins 8th) 7, D. Alberton 8, Nyskohus 8, Flounders 8, Santrac 7, Villani 6 (Miller 70th), Northcote 7, Maxwell 6, Vidmar 6, Mullen 8. Coach: Zoran Matic.

AZZURRI: D. Miller 8, F. Michelon 8, Kitchin 7 (Moretti 72nd), O. Michelon 7, R. Alberton 8, Zioa 8 (Roberts 76th), Francis 8, Ilicic 7, DeVita 6 (O'Connor 47th), Bojczuk 6, Giannitto 7. Coach: Joe Serafini.

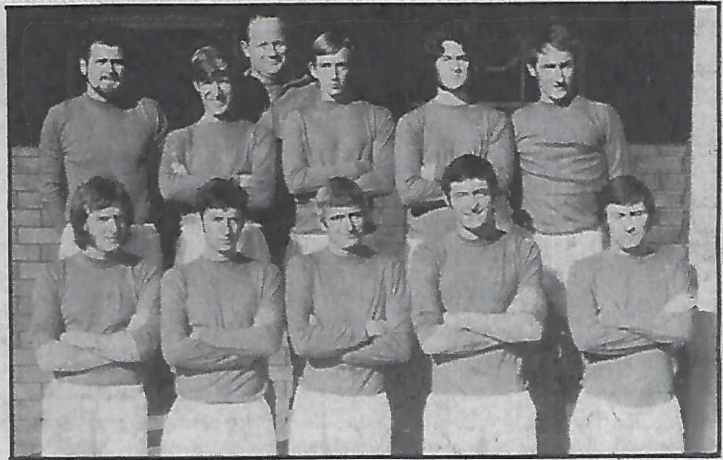
BLASTS FROM THE PAST



● **RALPH COATES**, England international of Tottenham Hotspur, revs up his team in one of 10 guest games for St. George Budapest in 1978. Ray Celestence, the England and Liverpool goalkeeper, played two guest games for the Saints that year.



● **CHARLIE GEORGE**, superstar of Arsenal and Derby County, tangles with Arthur Xanthopoulos of South Melbourne Hellas while guesting for St. George Budapest at Middle Park in 1977. Malcolm Macdonald played for Hellas in that match, which St. George won 3-2 in front of 14,000 people. Scorers were Rudi Gnani, Mark Jankovics and Charlie George for St. George, and Macdonald scored both goals for Hellas. Best players were Macdonald, Billy Rogers, Mike Pye and Xanthopoulos for Hellas, and Rob O'Shea, Ganvi, Phil O'Connor and Charlie George for St. George. Pictured in the background is Hellas full back Margaritis Hagegmanouli.



● **SYDNEY CROATIA, 1970**, featuring Tommy Randles and Nigel Shepherd who had played for Slavia in Melbourne, and Dave Taylor who, like Randles, represented New Zealand. From left, standing: Williams, Lincoln, Carr, Campbell, Wright. Front: Taylor, Ross, Randles, Shepherd, F. Cuth.



● **MELBOURNE CROATIA, 1968** — the squad that won the Victorian State League, minus Billy Vojtek who was absent when the picture was taken. From left, standing: Kovacek, Bot, Young, J. McKay, McIntyre, Rau, Becsi, D. McKay, Friganovic. Front: Jimmy Vojtek, Kempt, McMeechan, Currie, Adlam.



● **GEORGE BEST**, legendary ball wizard of Manchester United and Northern Ireland, with Brisbane Lions in 1983. Standing, from left: John Stewart, Peter McClurg, David Niven, Alan Hunter, Danny Wright, Simon Kiste-



● **TONY TURNER**, the man who cost South Melbourne Hellas three competition points in 1978 because he had not been cleared properly from England, heads the ball clear in a match against Sydney Hakoah at Wentworth Park. Hellas finished last that season, but avoided relegation. Also pictured, from left: John Stevenson (Hak), Bertie Lutton (Hellas), Gerry Gomez (Hak) and Sammy Wright

VIVA ITALIA

with ROCKY DI ZIO

Benvenuto Yzendoorn

La Juventus finalmente è riuscita ad assicurarsi il libero Yzendoorn dal rivale per eccellenza South Melbourne Hellas per la cifra non indifferente di \$14,500.

Il giocatore era stato il "palino" del nuovo allenatore McKendry che lo considerava indispensabile al suo schema di gioco, come lo era stato nel South Melbourne Hellas, nell'Heidelberg e nella statale di Victoria.

A rigor del vero non si può dare colpa a McKendry per aver voluto a tutti i costi Yzendoorn. Anche se ormai non più giovanissimo, ha compiuto 30 anni, il giocatore è indubbiamente uno dei migliori "liberi" d'Australia nel significato più vero del termine "libero" di sganciarsi dalla posizione di estremo difensore per appoggiare la manovra del centro-campo e proiettarsi addirittura in posizione di tiro risolutore. Con la bellezza di 24 reti messe a segno nella massima competizione Yzendoorn, difensore, diventa addirittura il "capocannoniere" della Juventus avendo segnato più reti di Sweeney (21) e di Zinni (13) in Lega Nazionale.

L'arrivo del classico difensore golador, permette inoltre il ritorno di Dowie al ruolo a lui più congeniale di centrocampista. Con un solo acquisto cos'è la difesa bianconera si è arricchita di classe ed il centrocampo ha trovato un ottimo sostituto per Miranda (scorrettezze comprese).

Il problema maggiore, quello dell'attacco, è rimasto insoluto, anzi è addirittura peggiorato a causa di certe inopinate "soluzioni" adottate dallo stesso McKendry.

L'anno scorso Margaritis aveva accettato il fatto di non aver punte di rilievo facendo

manovrare l'intero centrocampo come mezzapunta. La Juventus aveva messo a segno ben 33 reti (solo il South Melbourne di Charlie Egan aveva segnato di più) e le marcature portavano i nomi di tutti i centrocampisti e di qualche difensore, oltre a quelli del centravanti Sweeney e di Zinni che fece spesso da seconda punta.

Quest'anno McKendry ha invece deciso di "fare" punta Fabio Incaluppo, un giocatore totalmente negato per tale ruolo e praticamente inostituibile sulla fascia sinistra come centrocampista e mezzapunta.

Fabio ha un ottimo controllo di palla, dei dosatissimi lunghi traversoni, una cannonata di sinistro, un buon dribbling e un assoluto bisogno di spazio! Sulla sinistra ricopre il duplice ruolo di fornitore di palloni e di risolutore, a seconda delle circostanze. Al centro dell'attacco è completamente sprecato.

Se McKendry vuole a tutti i costi "fare" Yzendoorn, la scelta migliore di materiale naturale dovrebbe essere Andrea Zinni che ha scatto, prontezza di riflessi, calcio bene di destro e di sinistro, ha un'ottima elevazione, ed ha segnato un po' di tutte le posizioni.

A Zinni si rimprovera forse un eccessivo correre in tutte le direzioni, ma è proprio per correggere certe cattive abitudini che esistono gli allenatori. Per conto nostro Zinni potrebbe diventare un prolifico marcatore se fosse usato come il Green Gully usa da anni Paul Lewis, a ridosso della difesa e servito con palle lunghe sulle quali potrebbe arrivare molto prima del suo angelo custode per trovarsi a tu per tu con il portiere avversario.

Speriamo che McKendry riesca a rendersi conto che insistendo per la strada intrapresa non farà altro che "sacrificare" sia Incaluppo che Zinni, due giocatori che imputati nei rulli a loro più consoni sono da anni dei pilastri della Juventus. E se McKendry non se ne fosse reso

ancora conto, è bene che qualcuno gli faccia entrare in testa una regola fondamentale del calcio calcio ragazzi: "di casa" debbono essere favoriti a tutti i costi e non sacrificati. I tifosi italiani vogliono vedere in squadra ragazzi italiani, a meno che essi non siano molto inferiori alle importazioni.

E nessuno ci venga a dire che Incaluppo e Zinni non sono allo stesso livello, più o meno, degli altri atleti in bianconero! Ci guarderemo bene dall'alzare la tifoseria contro un nuovo allenatore, di cui abbiamo la massima stima, ma è bene essere chiari ed espliciti per evitare incresciose situazioni future. Se McKendry, come si mormora in giro da un po' di tempo, fosse intenzionato a far fare brutta figura ai due ragazzi italiani per giustificare l'esclusione dalla squadra, ha sbagliato di grosso. Incaluppo e Zinni saranno ancora alla Juventus quando McKendry non sarà più altro che un vago ricordo. Se lo metta bene in testa.

Noi non crediamo ai mormori che hanno cominciato a sollevarsi fra la tifoseria bianconera a questo riguardo, ma non possiamo nemmeno fermarci a un po' di convinzione da parte del presidente Caruso che meglio di ogni altro è nella posizione di sentire il polso del pubblico italiano.

McKendry ha ancora una decina di giorni ed alcune partite di allenamento per decidere la sua formazione tipo prima del primo turno della N.S.L. Cup (contro il Croatia Olympic Park) domenica 23 marzo e dell'inizio del campionato (contro il South Melbourne Hellas all'Olympic Park) la settimana successiva, 30 marzo, giorno di Pasqua.

Casual Bayern, supero Schumacher

Bayern Munich paid the price for a moment's casualness last week to let Anderlecht grab a vital second-half goal which could help the Belgian league leader into the European Cup semifinals.

The West German champion won the first leg 2-1 but was left bitterly regretting a string of wasted chances in the match it had almost totally dominated.

Veteran striker Dieter Hoeneß and Roland Wohlfarth had given Bayern a deserved 2-0 halftime lead.

But Anderlecht's Danish midfielder Henrik Andersen took advantage of a defensive lapse to scramble one back from close range in the 72nd minute at a time when it had looked far more likely the West Germans would increase their lead.

Anderlecht is one of the most exciting attacking sides in Europe but made no secret of its plans to contain Bayern when it faced the team without a recognised striker.

However, Bayern had little trouble springing its offside trap which could have had a halving effect.

Hoeneß scored his 24th goal in Europe after only 12 minutes when Wohlfarth broke clear on the right and passed to him with the simplest of chances to sidestep into the net.

The crowd, which often has made the tall, ponderous striker the butt of jokes, began chanting "Dieter for Mexico" in recognition of his value to the team as a goalscorer.

Anderlecht's offside trap backfired completely in the 22nd minute when Holger Willmer put Wohlfarth through on his own to slip the ball past Belgian keeper Jacques Munaron.

Lothar Matthäus should have made it 3-0 five minutes later when he ran clear from the halfway line but Manron managed to smother the ball at his feet.

Though Anderlecht wisely restrained its use of the offside play in the second half, Bayern looked firmly in control. Michael Rummenigge hit a post and Wohlfarth twice went close to scoring.

But the Belgians began to show some signs of their creative ideas in the last 20 minutes as Bayern's confidence ebbed after Andersen's goal.

TEAMS: BAYERN: Raimond Aumann, Norbert Nachtwey, Norbert Eder, Klaus Allofs, Holger Willmer; Lothar Matthäus, Sören Lerby, Hans Pflüger, Michael Rummenigge; Roland Wohlfarth, Dieter Hoeneß (Frank Hartmann 76th).

ANDERLECHT: Jacques Munaron; Luca Peruzzo (Walter de Greef 71st), Stéphane Demol, Robert Olschewski, Gert Groote; Georges Grün (Erwin Vandenberg 78th), Enzo Scifo, René Vandereycken, Henrik Andersen; Per Friman, Juan Lozano.

COLOGNE: Cologne scrambled to a 1-1 draw against Sporting Lisbon in a UEFA Cup quarter-final first leg thanks to a last-minute penalty and a superb display of goalkeeping by international Harald Schumacher.

After a one-sided first half in which Sporting piled on the pressure, the Portuguese side was rewarded in the 54th minute when Englishman Raphael Meade let loose a fierce shot which rebounded off a Cologne defender into the net.

Sporting used its efforts in the rest of the second half and seemed headed for a narrow 1-0 win when in the dying minutes Janssen was brought down in the area by Vitor.

Despite the protests of the Sporting players and the home crowd, English referee Roger Courtney pointed to the spot.

The captain Alfons scored on his second attempt after the referee had disallowed his first penalty because a teammate was judged to have entered the area before the shot was taken.

The doubted man of the match was Cologne's keeper

Schumacher, who time and again thwarted the Sporting forwards with spectacular saves.

SPORTING LISBON: Damião, Manuel Xavier (63rd), Duilio, Virgilio, Mario Jorge, Litos (Jordao 45), Oceano, Jaime Pacheco, Sousa, Manuel Fernandes, Meade.

COLOGNE: Schumacher, Van de Korp, Prestini, Steiner, Pisanti (Janssen 67), Lehoffe, Gells, Honerbach, Gelekenkirchen, Littbarski (Gleichen 80), Alofs. In Milan, West Germany's Karl-Heinz Rummenigge scored a fine opportunistic goal as Internazionale Milan beat Nantes 3-0 in their UEFA Cup quarter-final first leg.

Internazionale, enjoying a resurgence of the form that has eluded it in the Italian league this season, forced Nantes to play a tightly defensive game and now can look forward to the second leg in France next week.

Rummenigge's goal came in the 78th minute when Internazionale already was leading 2-0. He headed the ball against the bar, out of goalkeeper Jean Paul Bertrand-Demaigne's reach, and then nodded in the rebound.

INTERNAZIONALE: Xenga, Bergomi, Mandorlini, Baresi, Collovati, Ferri, Fanna (Marini 89th min), Tardelli, Altobelli, Brady (Mariani 83rd min), Rummenigge.

NANTES: Bertrand-Demaigne, Kambouare, Ayache, Le Roux, Der Zakarian, Bracigliano, Desbottes (Frankowski 84th), Barruchaga, Halilhodzic, Toure, Amisse (Morice 75th).

In Vienna, four goals in 18 minutes catapulted Dynamo Kiev to a 4-1 victory over Rapid Vienna, last year's finalist in the European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final.

The impressive away victory in the first-leg match almost certainly secured a place in the last four for Dynamo which recently won its 11th Soviet league title in 25 years.

EUROPEAN CUP: In Bucharest: Steaua Bucurest (Romania) 0 Kuusysi Lahti (Finland) 0.

In Munich: Bayern Munich (West Germany) 2 Anderlecht (Belgium) 1 (2-0). Scorers: Bayer-Hoeneß (13th min), Wohlfarth (32nd); Anderlecht-Andersen (72nd). Attendance: 35,000. In Aberdeen: Aberdeen (Scotland) 2 Gothenburg (Sweden) 2 (1-1). Scorers: Aberdeen-Miller (15th), Hewitt (75th); Gothenburg-Holmgren (43rd), Ekstrom (89th). Attendance: 22,000. In Barcelona: Barcelona (Spain) 1 Juventus (Italy) 0 (halftime 0-0). Scorers: Julio Alberto (82nd min). Attendance: 120,000.

Cup Winners' Cup: In Prague: Dukla Prague (Czechoslovakia) 1 Benfica Lisbon (Portugal) 0 (halftime 1-0). Scorers: Luhovy (14th). Attendance: 18,000. In Vienna: Austria Vienna (Austria) 2 Bayer Uerdingen (West Germany) 0 (0-0). Scorers: Frank Lippmann (50th), Hans-Uwe Pilz (62nd). Attendance: 36,000.

In Belgrade: Red Star Belgrade (Yugoslavia) 0 Atletico Madrid (Spain) 2 (0-1). Scorers: Da Silva (29th, 89th). Attendance: 80,000.

In Vienna: Rapid Vienna (Austria) 1 Dynamo Kiev (Soviet Union) 4 (0-0). Scorers: Rapid: Willfurth (84th); Dynamo Kiev: Belanov (58th), Elov, Samoylov (68th), Yakovenko (74th). Attendance: 13,000.

UEFA Cup: In Split: Hajduk Split (Yugoslavia) 1 Waremeg (Belgium) 0 (1-0). Scorers: Zlatko Juric (61st). Attendance: 50,000.

In Milan: Internazionale Milan (Italy) 3 Nantes (France) 0 (1-0). Scorers: L. Roux (own goal 13th), Tardelli (61st), Rummenigge (78th). Attendance: 40,000.

In Madrid: Real Madrid (Spain) 3 Neuchâtelamax (Switzerland) 0 (halftime 1-0). Scorers: Hugo Sanchez (32nd min), Michel Gonzalez (66th), Emilio Butragueno (88th). Attendance: 110,000.

In Lisbon: Sporting Lisbon (Portugal) 1 Cologne (West Germany) 1. Scorers: Sporting-Meade (54th min); Cologne-Allofs penalty (89th min). Attendance: 50,000.

VERSEAS RESULTS

FRANCE
First Division results: Paris 5-6 1 Rennes, O. Marseilles 0 Metz 0, 2 1. Bordeaux 1, Auxerre 1, Monaco 0, Nantes 2, Lille 2, Lens 3, Sochaux 1, Laval 3, Nancy 1.

Standings

W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Paris S.G.	10	2	9	25	49
Nantes	10	5	4	22	41
Bordeaux	10	5	4	23	40
Auxerre	10	3	3	29	36
Lens	10	3	4	27	35
Toulon	10	3	4	28	34
Monaco	9	16	7	43	33
Metz	11	10	11	32	32
Nice	11	10	10	30	32
Strasbourg	10	10	10	30	30
Laval	9	12	10	34	30
Le Havre	11	13	4	28	29
Sochaux	7	14	3	46	28
Toulon	6	12	10	40	28
Marseilles	9	14	34	36	27
Sochaux	9	13	37	48	27
Brest	10	7	13	30	27
Rennes	10	6	10	30	27
Strasbourg	6	8	17	25	28
Bastia	5	8	17	28	19

ITALY
First Division results: Atalanta 1, Avellino 2, Sampdoria 3, Bari 1, Torino 0, Internazionale 2, Fiorentina 0, Juventus 1, Napoli 1, Pisa 0, Milan 1, Udinese 2, Lecce 1, Verona 3, Roma 2.

Standings

W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Juventus	15	8	1	30	38
Inter	15	5	6	40	33
Napoli	9	11	4	27	18
Milan	9	10	5	28	18
Internazionale	10	7	13	27	20
Torino	8	9	7	24	20
Fiorentina	6	12	7	28	19
Verona	8	8	15	31	24

HUNGARY
First Division results: Debrecen 1, Pecs 2, Budapesti Vasas 0, Honved Budapest 2, BTK V.M. 1, Vasas Budapest 2, Szombathelyi Csopel 0, Ujpesti Dzsica 0, Békéscsabai Rába Eto Gyver 4, Debrecen 2, Videoton 2, Siofok 1, Ferencváros 2, Zalaegerszeg 2.

Standings

W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Honved Budapest	11	5	4	27	33
Pecs	11	5	5	21	27
Videoton	10	7	3	21	27
BTK V.M.	7	9	5	25	23
Zalaegerszeg	7	9	5	25	23

HOLLAND
First Division results: Excelsior Rotterdam 0, PSV Eindhoven 1, Sparta Rotterdam 3, Groningen 3, Ajax Amsterdam 7, Heracles Almelo 0, Fortuna Sittard 2, Roda JC Kerkrade 1, Den Bosch 1, CA Eagles Deventer 0, MVV Maastricht 0, AZ 67 Alkmaar 0.

Standings

W	D	L	F	A	Pt
PSV Eindhoven	18	1	6	37	31
Ajax Amsterdam	17	4	7	27	34
Feyenoord R.D.	14	2	4	27	30
Den Bosch	10	6	5	34	19

CZECHOSLOVAKIA
First Division results: Tatran Presov 2, Sparta Prague 1, Spartak Trnava 2, Zilina 0, Dukla Prague 10, Ceske Budejovice 0, RH Chex 3, Slavia Prague 1, Kometovska Kocise 1, Slovan Dubaj 1, Inter Bratislava 3, Dukla Banska Bystrica 1, TJ Vitkovice 3, Dujanska Sireda 0.

Standings

W	D	L	F	A	Pt
TJ Vitkovice	9	6	1	24	13
Spartak Trnava	2	5	4	10	13
Slavia Prague	8	5	5	14	14
Dukla Prague	8	5	5	14	14
RH Chex	8	1	7	30	17

WEST GERMANY
First Division results: Bayern Munich 2, Fortuna Düsseldorf 3, Schalke 3, Cologne 0, Stuttgart 3, Nuremberg 1, Werder Bremen 0, Borussia Dortmund 4, Kaiserslautern 2, all other matches postponed: pitches unavailable.

Standings

W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Werder Bremen	17	6	3	31	35
Bayern Munich	16	4	6	55	28
Borussia Dortmund	12	4	13	53	24
Bayern Leverkusen	10	6	4	37	28
Hamburg	11	4	8	35	23
Stuttgart	9	9	9	38	26
Borussia	10	3	10	42	26
Waldhof Mannheim	8	7	7	31	23
Eintracht Frankfurt	6	11	7	27	23
Bayern Uerdingen	15	5	3	49	22
Borussia Dortmund	6	11	4	40	22
Schalke	6	5	10	37	25
Cologne	10	10	3	34	20
Fortuna Düsseldorf	6	11	4	40	20
Kaiserslautern	7	4	14	38	19
Nuremberg	7	10	11	35	19
Saarlouis	5	11	13	45	18
Hannover	5	4	13	35	14

BRITAIN
English F.A. Cup: Brighton 0 Southampton 2, Luton 2, Everton 2 (replay tonight, Wednesday).

English F.A. Cup 1st round replay: Bury 0, Watford 3, Manchester United 0, West Ham 2.

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE: Aston Villa 1, Arsenal 1, Chelsea 1, Manchester City 0, Ipswich 1, Nottingham Forest 0, Leicester 2, Coventry 1, Liverpool 4, Queens Park Rangers 1, Sheffield Wednesday 5, Birmingham 1, Tottenham 5, West Bromwich 0. Postponed: Manchester United v Luton, Oxford v Everton, Watford v Southampton, West Ham v Newcastle.

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO: Bradford 3, Blackburn 2, Crystal Palace 2, Middlesbrough 1, Grimsby 1, Oldham 4, Leeds 2, Huddersfield 0, Millwall 3, Sheffield United 0, Portsmouth 1, Barnsley 1, Shrewsbury 2, Falmouth 2, Stoke 0, Hull 1, Sunderland 1, Charlton 2, Wimbledon 2, Norwich 1, Postponed: Carlisle v Brighton.

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE: Bolton 2, Reading 0, Bournemouth 1, Cardiff 1, Bristol Rovers 1, Plymouth 2, Chesterfield 1, Bristol City 0, Gillingham 2, Blackpool 2, Newport 1, Lincoln 2, Notts County 0, Derby 3, Swanssea 2, Brentford 1, Walsley 1, Doncaster 0, Walsley 1, Doncaster 0, Darlington 1, York 0, Carlisle 1.

ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR: Aldershot 1, Halifax 2, Burnley 1, Chester 0, Exeter 2, Colchester 2, Hereford 3, Northampton 0, Mansfield 2, Cambridge 0, Petersborough 3, Hartlepool 1, Preston 1, Crewe 2, Rochdale 1, Swindon 2, Scunthorpe 2, Orient 2, Wrexham 1, Port Vale 3, Stockport 1, Truro 1, Tranmere 1, Southend 1.

Standings

W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Reading	22	4	5	51	38
Gillingham	16	5	1	31	39
Wigan	16	8	4	55	22
Walsley	16	8	4	55	22

SCOTTISH F.A. Cup quarter-finals: Dundee 2, Aberdeen 2, Hibernian 4, Celtic 3, Hearts 4, Dundee United 1, Hearts 4, St. Mirren 1.

SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE: Airdrieonians 4, Brechin 2, Ayr 0, Falkirk 2, Ayr 2, Clyde 0, East Fife 3, Forfar 0, Hamilton 3, Kilmarnock 2, Motherwell 1, Morton 1, Partick 1, Dumbarton 2.

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO: Berwick 1, Albion 2, Duffield 0, Queen's Park 0, East Stirling 2, Stenhousemuir 0, Meadowbank Thistle 0, Queen's Park 0, Cowden 0, St. Johnstone 1, Raith 3, Stranraer 1, Airdrieonians 1.

GOLA LEAGUE: Barnet 1, Dagenham 2, Dartford 1, Scarborough 1, Enfield 3, Nuneaton 2, Frickley 2, Wycombe 2, Kettering 0, Weymouth 2, Kidderminster 1, St. Albans 1, Telford 2, Maidstone 4, Wealdstone 0, Chesham 0.

MULTIPART LEAGUE: Bangor City 0, Harrogate 0, Buxton 1, Caernarfon 1, Galeshead 3, Southport 1, Horwich 3, Macclesfield 1, Oswestry 0, Gole 1, Rhyl 0, Macclesfield 2, Wrexham 1, Warrington 2, Llanelli 1.

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE: Everton 20, Liverpool 20, Manchester United 18, Chelsea 18, West Ham 15, Arsenal 14, Tottenham 14, Sheffield Wednesday 14, Nottingham Forest 14, Derby County 14, Leeds United 14, Blackburn Rovers 14, Middlesbrough 14, Grimsby 14, Oldham Athletic 14, Huddersfield 14, Millwall 14, Sheffield United 14, Portsmouth 14, Barnsley 14, Shrewsbury 14, Falmouth 14, Stoke 14, Hull 14, Sunderland 14, Charlton 14, Wimbledon 14, Norwich 14, Postponed: Carlisle v Brighton.

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO: Bolton 11, Reading 11, Bournemouth 11, Cardiff 11, Bristol Rovers 11, Plymouth 11, Chesterfield 11, Bristol City 11, Gillingham 11, Blackpool 11, Newport 11, Lincoln 11, Notts County 11, Derby 11, Swanssea 11, Brentford 11, Walsley 11, Doncaster 11, Walsley 11, Doncaster 11, Darlington 11, York 11, Carlisle 11.

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ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR: Aldershot 1, Halifax 2, Burnley 1, Chester 0, Exeter 2, Colchester 2, Hereford 3, Northampton 0, Mansfield 2, Cambridge 0, Petersborough 3, Hartlepool 1, Preston 1, Crewe 2, Rochdale 1, Swindon 2, Scunthorpe 2, Orient 2, Wrexham 1, Port Vale 3, Stockport 1, Truro 1, Tranmere 1, Southend 1.

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SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Hearts 14, Dundee United 13, Aberdeen 1

TA NEA TON OMAΔΩN MΑΣ ΑΠΟ ΤΟ ΣΗΜΕΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΕΝΑΛΤΥ



by
Manos
Milios

Η ΚΡΟΑΤΙΑ ΕΠΕΣΤΟ ΜΗΝΑΙΟ

ΤΡΑΠΙΖΑ Η Κροατία που ξεκίνησε αντιστοίχως στο νικητήριο του πενάλτου, πήρε δίκαιο το κύπελλο με τη νίκη της στον τελικό του πενάλτου, λαμβάνοντας επί του λόγου 2-1 και με τέρματα που πέτυχαν οι Μπάρκοβιτς στο 30' και Λαζαρέβιτς στο 40' της συνάντησης.

Ο Αλέξανδρος στο 47' κατέφερε να ισοφαρίσει με πέναλτυ του Λάντερ και ήρθε με ότι στο 48' έμφορο να μπορούσε να πετύχει τον γόλο. Το κέντρο του δίκου με τέρματα χωρίς και η επιθετική του γραμμή έτσι ώστε να αφήσει την πρωτοβουλία των κινήσεων στους αντιπάλους τους οι οποίοι πέτυχαν το γκολ της νίκης και έγραψαν τον κύπελλο.

Λογικά με την ήττα του 6 ηγάρ, ορίζει θερμά συγχαρητήρια γιατί κατέφερε να φτάσει στον τελικό έπει που σκόνησαν άλλες ομάδες και που μαζί με την Κροατία ήταν τα φαβορί του τουρνουά.

Ο πάρα πολύ καλός τεχνικός της ελληνικής μας ομάδας, Μπάρκοβιτς, με το νεαρό παιδί από τα όπλα τα περισσότερα είναι ελληνικής καταγωγής έδωσε μαθήματα σε πολλούς συναδέλφους του και τους έδειξε ότι μία ομάδα στήνεται στον αγωνιστικό χώρο και χωρίς βεντέτες. Άλλοτε να καταλάβουν πολλοί παρόντες που σκέφτονται για να δειξάνε τον ταμείο τους ανορίζοντας έτοιμους παίχτες πώς και οι μικροί κάνουν δουλειά και πολλές φορές καλύτερη.

Σ' αυτό το σημείο 6 ηγάρ πήρε άουτ και άρζει όπως είπαμε συγχαρητήρια.

ΝΙΚΟΚΡΕΤΗ ΚΑΠ

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JUGOSLOVENSKA SCENA

DVE CROATIE U SUPER-FINALU

Zahvaljujuci ANSETTU imacemo ove godine spektakularan kraj Noćnog takmičenja sa superfinalnom utakmicom u Melbourne na Olympic Parku. Sastaju se noćni šampioni Melbourne i Sidneja. Slučaj je hteo da to budu dve Croatije, koje su to pravo posteno zaslužile trenutnom formom. Ne sumnjamo u četvorocifrenu posetu.

Steta sto je u super-finalu nisu uključeni i pobednici noćnog takmičenja u Adelaid i Brisbane. Poslednje je jedino Noćno Super-finalo održano je 1980 godine za Ampol Kup. Tada je pobedio JUST, a turnir je tri dana. Svakog večeri bilo je preko 10.000 gledalaca, među njima mnogo Jugoslovana, koji se i danas sećaju ovog fantastičnog takmičenja, koje se nalazi pred obzorem.

U predigri Buffalo finala u Melbourne prošle subote igrali su juniori ispod 12 godina svoje finala. Malisani Preston Makedonije posle zanimljive igre zasluženo su pobedili Springvale United sa 3:0 (1:0). Strelci: E. Dimitrijević, I. Ristevski i M. Angelovski.

IZ "PLAVOG" TABORA

JUST-ov trener Dragoslav Sekulac priprema tim za novu sezonu odigravanjem prijateljskih utakmica protiv rivala protivnika. Jos uvek skripe izvesna mesta, koja ce se popuniti sa lokalnim igračima jugoslovenskog porekla. Sekulac računa na tri takva igrača, sa kojima se veliko pregovara.

Novi igrači iz jugoslavije jos se nisu uključili u novu sredinu, sto je pitanje vremena. Znadnje dve trening utakmice JUST je odigrao na svom igralistu.

U četvrtak utakme "Plavi" su pobedili Praeco Vale Peilster sa 1:0 (0:0). Strelci: Vidala Stosic 3, pavić Simeć 3, Oscar Latif 2, Bill Lazopoulos 2.

JUST je igrao u sledecem sastavu: Nikitović (Turudija), Karic, Petrovski, Vučković (Obiak), Belic, Tapi (Bilic), Simeć (Nedelkovski), Bozovski (Janjic), Latif (Lazopoulos), Stosic (Milic), Lujic (Obadovic).

Pelister je upotrebio sledecie igrače: Maracato, Bonella, McLaughlin, Bercan, Christou, Stathopoulos, Belegrić, Fasanella, Kapuranovski, Lazarevski, Nivećki.

U nedelju posle podne JUST je pobedio Frankston Pines sa 2:0 (1:0). Gosti, koje trenira dugogodišnji JUST-ov golman Denis Boland, bili su trvd orah, sto je najbolje osocio Vidala Stosic, koji je morao zbog povreda da napusti igraliste u 21. minutu. Pre toga je imao dosta teskoca u borbi sa protivnim bekovima, pa ce morati da menja taktiku.

Najsumpjenije sa tvrdom dbranom Frankston Pinesa nosio se Ossi Latif, ali nije imao sreće da se uspe u strlec. Dva puta se ne njegove "bombe" odbile od unutrašnjeg dela precka. Jordan je lopta bila unutra sto sudija nije video.

Golove su postigli Pavle Simeć u 27. i Ernie Tapau u 58. minutu.

U subotu sastav: Nikitović, Karic, Petrovski, Bozovski, Vučković, Belic, Tapi, Latif, Stosic (Lazopoulos od 21. minuta), Simeć (Nedelkovski od 76. minuta), Lujic

Vrlo dobro su igrali Toma Karic, Viada Bozovski, Oscar Latif, Ernie Tapau, Simeć i Bill Lazopoulos. Ostali slabije nego sto mogu.

JUST ce po svoj prilici igrati prijateljsku utakmicu i u četvrtak 13. marta, dok se za nedelju trazi protivnik. Hellas duguje "plavi" jednu prijateljsku utakmicu.

"Plavi" su prijavić cetiri juniorska tima za nastupajuću sezonu: ispod 12, 13, 14 i 16 godina. Treninzi se održavaju sredom i petkom od 5 po podne u Footscray Parku (iza Technick koleđa).

VIKTORIJA KUP

ALTONA GATE VARDAR - WAVERLEY CITY 2:1 u produžetku od pola sata, posto se u regularnom vremenu utakmica završila nerešeno 1:1. Altona Gate je nadigrala protivnika, ali zbog jalove navale jedva je dobila ovu utakmicu, koja je mogla da se završi sa obrnutim rezultatom. Srećom Con Barbakos je izvanredno intervenisao u opasnim trkucima.

U predigri su igrali dva tima odigrali prijateljsku utakmicu, koja se završila pobedom Altona Gate sa 6:3 (1:2). Gosti su bili bolji do 75 minuta i zasluženo vodili sa 3:1, ali tada su se probudili momci Celeta Prestigskog i izveli pravi vatromet, koji je uspeo protivnika Strelci: Blagoje Nikolicovski 2, Slobodan Kitonovski 2, Naco Flores i Billy Cvetkovski po 1.

U glavnoj utakmici, gosti su preko desne spojke dva tri puta izgrižili gol Barbakosa dok nisu povel sa 1:0 u 6. minuta. Prilik je trajao punih 20 minuta, kada je Altona Gate izvela prvi ozbiljan protivnapad.

U 34. minuta gosti su mogli da osiguraju pobedu, jer je cela odbrana Altona Gate bila matirana, ali srećom lopta se od stativice odbila na 10 u 6. minuta. Prilik je privatio je Jimmy Kebakovski i izbio pred gol protivnika. Na nesrecu niko ga nije pratio i lepa prilika je otisla u nepovrat.

Dva minuta kasnije doslo je do izjednačenja, ali gol je postigao desni half gostiju, koji je pod pritisak navale Altona Gate pogodio sopstvenu mrežu.

Posle toga Altona Gate preuzima inicijativu, ali samo do protivničkog kaznenog prostora, dok se utrkuju u promativanju skoro svi navali na igru.

U subotu 15. marta Altona Gate igra za Docket Kup protiv Melbournea na igralistu Fawkena u 1. 15 po podne.

SPRINGVALE UNITED - KARINGAL UNITED 6:3 (1:1). Stelci za "plave": Dragan Janjic u 62, 31, jedanaestercu 18. Aleksandar Cane Veleviski u 36. Dragoslav Jellic u 37. Stevan Janjic u 65. i Danny Tarav u 76. minutu.

Prema sansama koje nisu iskoriscene rezultat je skroman, ali vise nego dovoljan da se "Plavi" dalje problijuju u Viktorija Kupu.

Sastav Springvale Utd: Nenad Ranic, John Makidis, Mico Jankovic, Ilija Kerezovic, Stevan Janjic, Dragan Janjic, Zahid

Deankovic or Davidson: who's best?

Drago Deankovic of Melbourne Croatia was dumped in the reserves for 18 months after following his mates, Josip Biskic and Jozo Antolovic to Australia. Today, Deankovic rivals Alan Davidson as the finest right back in the country.

Deankovic is flattered by the comparison, but he laughs it off.

"Davidson is better," he says. "I really like the way he plays for Australia."

"I like the whole Australian team, and the way it plays under Frank Arok," adding that it is his ambition also to play for the Socceroos.

In a few months' time, Deankovic, 26, will have been a permanent resident for the three years that are required before you are eligible for Australian citizenship. And once he is naturalised, he's sure to be considered by Arok, who was impressed by Deankovic in Croatia's 3-2 victory over George Cross in the Buffalo Gold Cup semi-finals.

Unfortunately for eager fans, they won't be able to compare the full back qualities of Deankovic and Davidson in clashes between Croatia and Hellas this year, because while Davidson plays right back for Australia, he will be in midfield for Hellas.

Manfred Kaltz, the former West German international, is the full back on whom Deankovic has tried to model himself.

"I want to play like he played," he says. "He is strong, big and fast, and he has a very good cross."

Deankovic had a bit of readjusting to do when he came to Australia, because he'd never played full back before. He was a centre back with Borovca and Osijek back home. "We always played double centre halves at home. One would mark, and the other would sweep, depending what side the action was on."

"When I came here, I thought they didn't know soccer in Australia, but I was very surprised. There is good soccer here. It is not easy for players from overseas. Some players cannot adapt."

"Now I really enjoy playing full back, although Miron Bleiberg tries to make me more a midfielder. I go forward like a midfielder, but I call myself a full back."

Only four 10-ratings were awarded to players during the Buffalo Cup. They went to Deankovic for his performance against George Cross — and to his Croatia team-mates Steve Gojevic and Gary Ward for their roles in a 6-0 victory over Morwell Falcons, as well as Heidelberg goalkeeper Jeff Oliver in the final.

Obviously, Deankovic is looking forward to the best season of his career and perhaps to winning the NSL championship, yet it was all so different in 1993.

The Deankovic story begins back in Yugoslavia, where he played for Borovca in the third division, and graduated to the senior team of Osijek, then coached by Dom Kapetanovic, now the boss of Canterbury-Marrickville. Antolovic, who returned late last year to Yugoslavia, also was at Osijek.

Biskic, who had been with Deankovic at Borovca, and Antolovic, joined Melbourne Croatia in 1982, and Deankovic followed them three months later.

"At the end of that season, I played all the games under coach Joe Kiss. My last game was in the top four series against Green Gully," Deankovic says.

Then John Gardiner became the coach. I'll never forget my first training session under him. He had some of the committee sent the rest of us to train with the reserves at the other side of the ground. He just didn't like me.

"I was out for one and a half years, playing in the reserves, sitting on the bench, coming on for 10 or 15 minutes. I really lost confidence in that time. People did not believe in me. It was a hard time."

Terry Hennessey came from America and took over from Gardiner in early 1984 and I thought it would be different now. He was a good coach and he would demand discipline. But after a good start, it was the same as before. The players were the chiefs — Tommy Cummings, Keith Adams and Shaun Parrott. They always had something to say, and Hennessey left. I always got on OK with these players, but they liked a different style of soccer.

Deankovic was considered the best player in Croatia's reserves, and even the reserves' coach, George Train, couldn't understand why Deankovic wasn't being given a go in the first team. Deankovic acknowledges, though, that Croatia had an excellent team which was by no means easy to break into.

"Tony Curcio was the right back and Ante Bilaver the left back. Then George Hannah came and took over from Bilaver. They were all good players," he says.

"But when Hennessey resigned, Tommy Cummings took over as coach for a while, and I think he and some of the committee pushed me into the team. My first full game after 18 months was against Macedonia in the National Cup. Robert Markovac also played his first game that day. Later, Tony Vrzina took over as coach and we had a run of about 17 games without losing, and I played in all of them."

"But I had to keep playing well because there was strong competition from Peter Lewis who joined from Green Gully and Jim Campbell who came from Heidelberg. Campbell was on the bench for many games, and Lewis, although he is a right back, was put in as stopper or midfielder so I could keep my position."

Deankovic's confidence has improved even more under Miron Bleiberg who became senior coach at the end of the 1985 season. "I have more experience now, as well," he says. "Miron is an honest man. He doesn't talk behind your back. He has made the team just like a family. We all talk together about every game and the spirit is excellent. But I don't know how Miron can keep together such a big squad. If he can do it, it will be a miracle."

The latest to join that large squad are Davor Todoric, a sensational left flanker from Zadar, and striker Ante Ljubic who has returned to Australia after spending the off season back home.

"Todoric will be a top player in Australia. Keep an eye on him," Deankovic says.

Croatia had hoped to get Antolovic back for the 1986 season, but the club can't count on it, according to Todoric. "I have spoken to him on the phone, his wife is having a baby, and he is trying hard to make it over here. He is with Olimpia in the third division. Maybe he will be back for next year."

Deankovic himself, has no intention of going back home in the foreseeable future. "I came here for one year but now it has been four years," he says. "I am buying a flat now, which will take three or four years to pay off."

He and his wife have one child, a daughter, Ivana. His wife's name is Gordana, the same name as Frank Arok's wife. "I must now have a good reason to be so excited," Deankovic jokes. "The Deankovic-Biskic combination on the right flank is one of Croatia's strongest weapons. "We have an excellent understanding because we have played together so long," Deankovic says. "I could be blind, but I would still know where Biskic is. It is not that I want to give the ball only to Biskic all the time, but I trust him and he always makes the right move."

"Gary Ward is another fine player. He is the only one who is really hungry for goals. Everyone at Croatia knows how to play soccer but we need someone to score, and that's Ward. Todoric is more like Biskic, he plays on the side, and he crosses the ball, but he also likes to come inside and he is very strong, so he probably will score too. Ljubic also has a chance to play. He is a good striker, and he can play also in midfield."

There has been speculation that Luka Bonacic will be moved to the sweeper's position to make room in midfield for at least one of the new arrivals. Deankovic doesn't think so. "Tony Curcio is back in the sweeper's position, and I know Miron would like to keep Bonacic in the midfield because he is such a great player."

Deankovic is confident Croatia will win the championship. "We will get much better," he says. "I know that every one has been playing for himself in some games, but when we play the first ball, and one-two, we will beat anyone."

By
LAURIE
SCHWAB



Alan Davidson of SM-Hellas and the Socceroos.

Drago Deankovic (left) pursues Brown of SM-Hellas.

MELBOURNE CROATIA RUMOR



Bleiberg Deankovic Curcio Gojevic Biskic Campbell

20. MIRKO RUNJE, 19, goalkeeper, dapper disco gear, ex-Springvale City and Australian Sports Institute, cousin of Robert Runje (Mornington) and Goran Runje (Frankston Pines). A young man mountain who was in the national squad for the World Youth Championships in the USSR last year, and made five appearances in the team.

1. ZELJKO GOJIC, 25, goalkeeper, usually No. 2 to Runje who replaced Gojic last year. Came to Croatia from N.K. Metalac in Sibenik.

2. DRAGO DEANKOVIC, 26, right back, being hailed as the most dynamic right back in Australian soccer, he spent a season and a half on the bench soon after arriving from Yugoslavia where he played for Osijek and Rijeka. Taking great delight now in using his superior skills and athletic prowess to build up play on the right, along with Josip Biskic. Has scored 1 NSL goal.

4. TONY CURCIO, 26, sweeper, ex-Atlanta City and Juventus where he broke a leg. A talkative, affable schoolteacher, of Italian descent, he also is a gifted artist. Extremely fast, he played at right back before switching to the sweeper's position, and was in the preliminary national side two years ago. Originally a winger with Atlanta City, the club that produced Alan Davidson, Peter Laumet and Mike Micevski.

3. DAVE MCINTOSH, 32, stopper, joined last season from Penrith and has been around more than most, having served Yugoslav, Sydney Olympic and George Budegost after arriving from

Scotland, where he played for Dundee. A huge, imposing figure who can score off opponents with his booming voice alone. 19 NSL goals.

5. GEORGE HANNAH, 28, left back, strong, quiet Scot signed three years ago from the now defunct Hakoah (Vic) where he played as stopper. Still useful in that position occasionally, to help Melbourne when Croatia plays against top strikers. Utterly reliable, he is hailed among team mates as the man who can do no wrong. 1 NSL goal.

8. JOSIP BISKIC, 26, right flank, one of the most skilful and exciting players in Australian soccer, Biskic joined Croatian 1982 and has increased his work load from year to year. A potential match-winner, he played for Osijek in Yugoslavia. Gave him a ball and he'll sat it. Represented Victoria against West Berlin representative team, 1984. Has scored 2 NSL goals.

11. JIMMY CAMPBELL, 30, central midfielder, one of the select few to have played in the NSL since it started in 1977, he arrived from England to join Heidelberg Alexander, from where he transferred to Croatia for \$22,000 in 1984. A former prolific goalscorer from midfield, he now plays a more defensive role — always the first to drop back when an attack breaks down. Has played eight games for Australia. Remains the NSL's highest scoring midfielder of all time, with a total of 38.

9. STEVE GOJEVIC, at 20, he is the NSL's youngest team captain but he's also the longest-serving Croatia player in

the present squad. Switched from the left to central midfield this year to get him more involved, he has exceptional skill and scoring ability. Was in the preliminary national squad last year and is destined for Socceroo honors soon. 10 NSL goals.

10. LUKA BONACIC, 30, midfielder, one of the most distinguished players in Australian soccer, having played for Hajduk Split in Yugoslavia, Malaga in Spain and V.H. Bochum in West Germany. Was a team mate of Sydney Croatia coach Vedran Rozic at Hajduk. All-round star, he can be midfield general, goalkeeper, or even flank player. Commanding person ality. One NSL goal.

11. DAVOR TODORIC, 26, left flanker or striker, joined three weeks ago from Zadar. Explosive, entertaining attacker who loves to take on opponents and shields the ball exceptionally well, he scored in his Croatia debut in the Buffalo Cup semi-final against George Cross.

14. GARY WARD, 29, striker, top scorer of the Buffalo Gold Cup with seven goals, he is one of the top personalities in Victorian soccer. By no means a humble man, Ward has been scoring goals since his days as an apprentice with Newcastle Alexander in England. He then played for Orient, Vancouver Whitecaps (Canada), Preston Makedonia and Brunswick Juventus before joining Croatia early last year. Croatia's 1985 top scorer with nine goals. Has scored a total of 38 in the NSL — making him 20th in the all-time standings.

12. ROBERT MARKOVAC, 18, striker, was in the squad for Australia's qualification in the World Youth Championships last year, making one appearance. Like Gojevic, a product of Croatia's youth, made his first team debut in the 1985 season. Has scored 8 NSL goals.

13. TONY REDMOND, 23, centre half, joined Canberra Olympians from Wily Athletic (England) and then switched to Brisbane Lions from where Croatia signed him late last season. A NSL goal scorer, was in the seasonal national team that played in the World Under-21 Championships in China last year. Has a similar debut in the Buffalo Gold Cup and has a brilliant future.

16. IVICA JURIC, 15, left back, former Croatia youth team player, who provided a reliable and versatile substitute for the seniors.

17. ANTE LJUBIC, striker, ex-midfielder, transferred to Melbourne Croatia last year from Sibenik, then returned here for the off-season. Yet to show his best.

MIRON BLEIBERG, 31, coach, took over for the Socceroo Cup semi-final last year, and guided Croatia to victory in that competition and in the Buffalo Gold Cup. The team has yet to lose a game since Bleiberg was named Croatia's youth team coach. Returned to Sibenik after being stopped in Australia in late 1984, on his way to be a world top with his wife Shira, but was caught in Israel's intifada. He played as a full back for Maccabi Haifa, Beitar Haifa and Yotvata when he was player-coach. Returned to Sibenik as coach and also had a year as youth coach with Maccabi Haifa. Boasts four championships in six years of coaching in Israel.

SYDNEY CROATIA

Attacking midfielder in the Sydney Croatia in the Ansett Cup 3pm on Sunday with the

Rumora, who arrives sure to lure a huge crowd between these sister clubs

The bond between Sydney Croatia and Melbourne Croatia has grown stronger in recent seasons. Sydney Croatia player-coach Vedran Rozic and Melbourne Croatia midfielder Luka Bonacic were team mates at Hajduk Split while Bonacic and Ante Ljubic of Melbourne Croatia and Sydney Croatia's star striker Zeljko Jurin were team mates at Sibenik. Former Socceroo Billy Vojtek and Branko Culina, winner of the 1985 Victorian Rothmans Medal, played with both Sydney and Melbourne Croatia.

To add spice to the contest, it's no secret that Rozic, a deadly would-be to have his old pal Bonacic wearing the colors of Sydney Croatia. Rozic also wants Bonacic to become Sydney Croatia's director of junior coaching. However, that doesn't add weight to recent press speculation about a rift between Bonacic and Melbourne Croatia coach Miron Bleiberg.

"Miron is a top coach and a great guy. Whenever anything goes wrong, people have been saying that I want Miron's job. That's rubbish. I have a lot of respect for Miron and he's a good friend," said Bonacic after Melbourne Croatia qualified for the Ansett Challenge Shield by beating Heidelberg 2-1 in last weekend's Buffalo Gold Cup final.

Bonacic scored Croatia's winning goal while Jurin, in sparkling form, scored for Sydney Croatia in its 1-0 defeat of Inter Monaro in last weekend's NSW Ampol Cup final.

That means that the lead-

start of last season via Inter Monaro. Dragovic has made a big impact at his new club. With four goals to his credit in the Ampol Cup, he's not only counted on when in front of goal. 6 NSL goals.

11. ZARKO ODZAKOV, 30, midfielder, an ex-Victorian and currently Australian international, Odzakovic is certainly Croatia's finest. His silky skills, enormous fire power and exceptional vision put him right ahead of most of the NSL midfielders. Was signed from Preston Makedonia for \$22,000 early last year. Played 15 games for Australia. 14 NSL goals.

20. GREG WOODHOUSE, 28, one-time Australian national team custodian who is now training for a place in the first team. Kept in half the Ampol Cup games. Previously with APIA Leichhardt. 24 Socceroo games.

12. ALEX KOVACIC, 25, full back, the brother of Miro Bleiberg, is a product of Croatia's juniors. Still to reach his best, but could become a regular with more enthusiasm and application.

14. JOHN KERO, 21, defender, midfielder or forward. A product of Croatia's juniors, this youngster has been knocking on the first team door for some time.

10. EMIL ORAGICEVIC, forward, imported from Dinamo Zagreb at the



Watson Arnold Kovacic Odzakovic Jurin

1. STEVE WATSON, goalkeeper, new appointee to Terry Greedy, at the age of 30 is one of the best custodians in the League. He started his career with Granville in the Sydney's western suburbs.

2. MARIJAN KOVACIC, 28, midfielder or stopper, one of two Kovacic brothers at Croatia. Marijan developed his skills in Zagreb, capital of Croatia. For years one of the most underrated players in NSW. Kovacic has supreme skill in both feet, speed to burn and anticipation to put him among the best 'correctors' in the game. He is Croatia's answer to Scirea. 3 NSL goals.

3. GRAHAM JENNINGS, 26, left back, at \$25,000 the most expensive defender in the column. Started his career at Adamstown on the Central Coast, and for years was a fine left winger. Regarded highly by most of our distinguished visiting sides. Jennings was signed from Sydney Olympic. Represented Australia 43 times and played 10 games for the National Youth Team. 12 NSL goals.

4. DRAGO REZO, 24, full back, product of Croatia juniors and at 23 the 'baby' of the tri-colours. Played for many years in midfield and moved to full back at the start of this season. Impresses with

his determination but still has a lot to learn. 3 NSL goals.

5. VEDRAN ROZIC, 30, player-coach of Croatia, he is one of the best players in the national team. Rozic has shown what good management and team play can do for club success. He believes only in one thing — strong defence and lightning-fast counter-attack.

6. SHANE CLINCH, 22, midfielder, one of the most talented local products from Sutherland Shire, Clinch has shown the value of tenacity and work rate. With speed in his feet and enthusiasm to burn, Clinch is assured of first team place for 1986. 4 NSL goals.

9. GRAHAM ARNOLD, 23, striker, still one of the babes at Croatia. How ever to opponents, Arnold, an ex-Canterbury player, is one of the most feared forwards. Scored five goals in nine Socceroo games and 24 NSL goals.

10. EMIL ORAGICEVIC, forward, imported from Dinamo Zagreb at the

this 26-year-old from Sibenik the second-highest goalscorer in the Ampol Cup. He is not only fast and furious but deadly with both feet. 10 NSL goals.

8. WALLY SAYOR, 28, midfielder, one of the most respected players in the NSL. He is yet to reach his peak. Played eight Socceroo games, 5 NSL goals.

12. ALEX KOVACIC, 25, full back, the brother of Miro Bleiberg, is a product of Croatia's juniors. Still to reach his best, but could become a regular with more enthusiasm and application.

14. JOHN KERO, 21, defender, midfielder or forward. A product of Croatia's juniors, this youngster has been knocking on the first team door for some time.

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